

# The Healing Line.....



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Christian Healing Ministries, Inc.

## Greater Joy Than We Have Ever Known

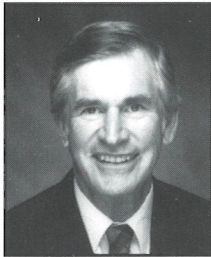
by Francis MacNutt

Joy is the explosive emotion we associate with Jesus rising up out from the tomb and bursting the bonds of death.

Mary Magdalene cried out with joy when she finally recognized Jesus after first mistaking him for a gardener when she went to mourn and weep at Jesus' tomb.

But so often Christians find it easier to experience the "mourning and weeping in this vale of tears" than to feel resurrection joy. Not that we are not meant to weep; in the Middle Ages people walking by a church where they heard Dominican friars weeping asked what the noise was all about and were told they were weeping for the sins of the world. It would be a great improvement for most of us, if we had that same sense of tragedy about the evil in the world. After all Jesus wept when he gazed out at Jerusalem and thought about all the prophets who had been murdered there. (The traditional site is still called "Jesus Fleuit," which means in Latin, "Jesus wept.")

But our joy as Christians even in this life, should be still stronger than the sadness. The philosopher Nietzsche, when addressing a group of nuns, is supposed to have said, "If you have joy in your hearts, would you please inform your faces." And our dear friend, Rev. Tommy Tyson, once did a study on the early Christian martyrs, and told me that the sign they were truly Christian was that they faced death with a song on their lips. One of the famous early accounts is of the



martyrdom of Saints Perpetua and Felicity and their companions (in Carthage in 203 A. D.). Felicity was eight months pregnant and so eager was she to be killed by the beasts and to meet the Lord with all her companions that they prayed for her baby to be born prematurely in prison. And her baby, a girl, was born. Her delivery was painful, and her jailer, hearing her groan, asked how she could face a far worse ordeal with the man-eating beasts of the arena. She answered: "My sufferings here are my own; there another will be in me, suffering for me, as I for him." Hearing this, the jailer was converted.

It seems clear that **such unusual joy comes from an experienced union with Jesus**. All Christians are meant to believe in Jesus Christ but even more than belief, they are meant to know Jesus as friend, as well as Lord.

Knowing him gives us joy.

This intimate knowing may be what Nietzsche's nuns most needed. In the famous prophecy concerning New Testament times in Jeremiah 31:31, the prophet predicts, "In those days they will all know me, the least as well as the greatest."

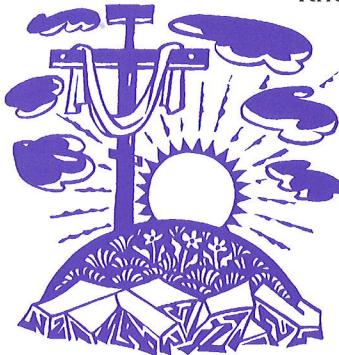
Coming back to Tommy Tyson, his spiritual hero was Rufus Moseley, a kind of Protestant Francis of Assisi, from Georgia. One night Rufus was praying while contemplating Jesus upon the cross. While deep in prayer he felt his arms being lifted up until he was in the form of a cross, too. But when this was happening, he started weeping with joy. So surprised was Rufus that he asked Jesus why he should be so joyful while praying about Jesus' sufferings. Jesus responded with what Rufus later called

"The Reverse Side of the Cross":

**He had suffered upon a cross of pain to put us upon a cross of joy. That he had died feeling abandoned by his Father, that we might know his Father's love. That he had died giving up his spirit, that we might be filled with his Holy Spirit.**

Judith, Rachel, David and I pray that during this Easter time, you might experience the joy of knowing the love of God brought to you through his Holy Spirit! We send you our love and blessings.

*Francis MacNutt*



*The One who dies for us - who was raised to life for us! - is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! — Romans 8:34-35, The Message by Eugene Peterson.*

### In This Issue

	Page
Reflections on Lent and Easter	2
Healing of Generations	3
From the Bookstore	4
Calendar of Events	5
Books We Have Written	5
Keys for Prayer Ministers	6
Voice of the Bird	7
Q & A-Binding Prayer	8
Prayer Reports	9
News & Views	10

# Reflections on Lent and Easter

by Francis MacNutt

To me a great mystery of this Lenten-Easter time of year has always been that the experienced joy of the Easter celebration often doesn't measure up to the experienced suffering and penance of Lent. Maybe this paradox isn't as clear these days when Christians aren't required to fast as much or to abstain from entertainment (such as movies) during Lent as they were in the past. But it still seems to be so.

Why is it, for example, that all the fun of the season is concentrated in the popular culture with vacationing in New Orleans to attend Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday" - the day before Ash Wednesday) with its big parades and all night parties? The next day our foreheads are smeared with ashes and we are told to remember that our bodies will return to dust. It seems that

the "world" (or perhaps Satan) gets credit for all the fun, while we Christians concentrate on sad things like death and dust.

Now, it is good of course, to ponder our mortality, so long as we experience a great celebration of new life at Easter. The realization of Christ's resurrection should eclipse the hollow merriment of Mardi Gras, and the sorrowful watch services of Good Friday. Although there are wonderful sunrise services at Easter, somehow the experienced life at Easter doesn't always equal the experienced death of Good Friday.

Rejoicing and sorrowing, Jesus experienced both didn't he? Why do we

concentrate on the sorrowful side, when the Gospels mention Jesus going to something like 17 parties! We deaden the impact by calling them "banquets" which makes it sound formal and stuffy. The "banquets" couldn't have been too stuffy. Jesus was criticized for being a drunkard and a glutton, and for hanging out with sinners, like Matthew and Zacchaeus (both who threw parties in Jesus' honor).

It's a great paradox, isn't it: that Jesus promised us life and joy in abundance, but he also said we would meet with suffering and persecution. Intense joy and deep peace such as the world cannot give, but also intense suffering and perse-

(Continued on page 11)



Christian Healing Ministries presents

## Healing of Sexual Addictions

November 13 - 15, 1997

Featuring : **Dr. Patrick Carnes**

best-selling author of *Out of the Shadows* and *Don't Call It Love*  
and

**Francis and Judith MacNutt**

speaking on the spiritual aspect of treatment

### Conference Goal and Objectives

The training will feature concrete strategies for treatment plus a framework for understanding recovery based on Dr. Carnes pioneering research on the recoveries of 1000 sex addicts. This conference will address healing the spiritual aspect of sexual addiction, as well.

Our goal is to educate the church and clinical communities about solutions to the complex issues in the treatment of sexual addiction. We encourage therapists, physicians, clergy and those interested in learning more about healing the emotional and spiritual aspect of sexual addiction to join us.

### Registration Information

**Where:** The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Airport in Jacksonville, Florida (Airport Road and I-95).

**Cost:** The conference fee is \$195.00 per person.

Dr. Carnes is the Director of Sex Disorders Services at *The Meadows* in Wickenburg, Arizona. *The Meadows* is a dual-diagnosis treatment center for chemical and behavioral addictions, treating depression and other psychiatric issues. The emphasis of treatment identifies roots of addiction by going back to family of origin issues to help patients in the recovery process.

ABC's 20/20 aired a story January 24, 1997 on sex addiction and interviewed Dr. Carnes as a leading expert in this field.

For more information please contact Ann Bauwens, CHM Conference Coordinator at (904) 765-3332.

# Healing of Generations: A New Form of Intercessory Prayer

by **The Reverend Patricia Smith**

Engaging in prayer for the healing of generations has strengthened my belief that we actually live in two dimensions at the same time, one made up of material reality and the other of spiritual reality. In the spiritual world our reliance is on the love of God, the redemptive work of Jesus, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. In this realm all of the promises of God are already realized and we have all of the power and authority that God has so graciously promised to His people. Time is different in the spiritual world. *Chronos*, or chronological time as we know it, is only a device God has given us to keep order in the created realm. With God past events do not belong to yesterday alone, they are also part of the ever-present; and future; they are all a part of one terrain.

Included in that all-encompassing terrain would be every person who has ever been part of our lives, whether deceased or living. Also included would be every event in our personal history, whether past, present, or future. The most important moments in the history would be *kairos*, the right moments for God to act on our behalf. Every time that we approach God, whether for forgiveness, for intercession, or for worship, is *kairos*. This is the opportune moment for us to bring ourselves and those we pray for into an encounter with God and His healing love,

through the person of Jesus Christ. As we ask Jesus to heal the trauma in our family lines, *chronos* (the space of linear time we dwell in) becomes *kairos*, our time changes into God's time, and His healing touch is brought into the painful situation. The outcome of this transformation of time is that the yoke of oppression coming from past generations is broken.

This allows Jesus' healing power to flow into people in the present generation and release them and their progeny from the painful effects of past hurts.

It is with this understanding that we begin our prayers for healing of the generations. It is because we know that God has already won the warfare in heaven and has given us the spiritual authority to enforce his victory on earth, that we even dare to begin praying for generational healing. For healing of generations is simply a new form of intercessory prayer. And intercessory prayer is a time of battle when we storm the very

gates of heaven to bring the people we are praying for before the throne of God.

As we see depicted in the fifth chapter of the Revelation to John, "...there before the throne stands the Lamb, He who was slain before the beginning of the world, He whose blood paid the price for our sins and the sins of the world. Falling down before Him and worshipping him are all the heavenly court, and in their hands are ... golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints..." Our prayers

are joined with worship rendered to the Lamb and through Him ascend to the Father. In effect, every time we pray, we join with all of the hosts of heaven standing before the throne of God day and night. This is true: through the blood of the sacrificial Lamb of God we are allowed access into the very courts of heaven. God has "...raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus..." (Ephesians 2:6).

This is very important for us to remember, for it is not an easy thing we do when we engage in intercessory prayer for a family line. We become prayer-warriors, people who are engaged in a very intense battle. Our fight is not with a visible foe, but with the Christians' ancient and defeated enemy, Satan. Our families have been kept in bondage to their sin and hurt for many generations because of the work of this adversary. However, faithful people in this present generation, going before God in strong intercessory prayer, can release their families from the effects of past generational hurt and sin. As we ask God to take us back to the very places in the family history where all of the pain and hurts originate, Jesus puts us on the front line, working with him, to free all of the members of our families as He restores, establishes, and strengthens them.

This is a very intense and powerful form of petition and we are never alone when we enter into it. Jesus himself intercedes both for us and with us. He is our great High Priest, who is continually before the throne of God, pleading for us. We cannot even hope to engage in this ministry without the complete assurance of his help. We need to rely on him completely, but we also need to remember that he is relying on us to carry out his work in this world. As we pray for others while doing healing of the generations, we gather up those we are praying for and storm the very gates of heaven until their days of bondage are over.

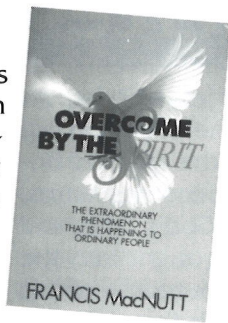
*Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ... Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped. **Revelation 5: 6-8, 13-14***

## From The Bookstore

**Overcome by the Spirit**  
by Francis MacNutt

The extraordinary phenomenon that is happening to ordinary people. Resting in the Spirit continues today and graces believers with healing and wholeness. What really happens to people who rest or are “slain” in the Holy Spirit? Does it help?

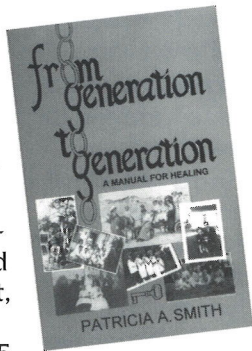
#B231 Softcover 182 pages \$9.99



***From Generation to Generation***  
***A Manual for Healing***  
**by The Rev. Patricia A. Smith**

This powerful book describes Healing of Generations - a ministry God powerfully uses to set people free from the sins and hurts that have come down through the past generations of their family lines.

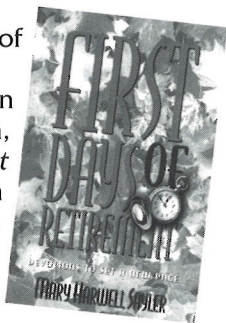
"I have found Pat Smith's book on generational healing eminently practical and I recommend it highly." Francis MacNutt, Ph.D.



## ***First Days of Retirement - Devotions to Set a New Pace*** **by Mary Harwell Sayler**

Retiring? The most rewarding work of your life may be just ahead!

Built around the changes retirement can bring in your lifestyle, sense of self-worth, and daily routine, *First Days of Retirement* helps you discover ageless strengths which never decline. Even though you've retired, God hasn't.

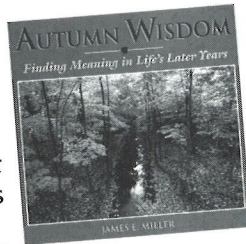


## ***Autumn Wisdom - Finding Meaning in Life's Later Years*** **by James E. Miller**

Sensitive, insightful exploration of the feelings that come with aging. Simple, affirming suggestions for finding renewal and purpose in life.

*Autumn Wisdom* brings you spiritual reflections, insights, and guidance that bring understanding and renewal to life's most challenging times.

#B547 Softcover 63 pages \$14.99



***Aging - The Fulfillment of Life***  
by Henri J. M. Nouwen and Walter J. Gaffney

*Aging* shows us all how to start fulfilling our lives by giving to others, “so that when we leave this world, we can be what we have given.” It is a warm, beautiful, and caring book: a simple reaffirmation of the promise of Him, who by His aging and death brought new life to this world.

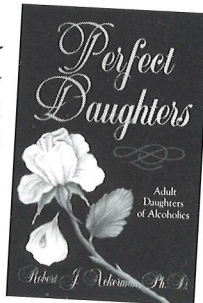
#B546 Softcover 160 pages \$9.95



***Perfect Daughters: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics***  
by Robert J. Ackerman, Ph.D.

Are women who were raised in alcoholic families, adult daughters, different from women who were raised in non-alcoholic families?

If you often feel isolated, engage in self-condemnation, experience inconsistency, always want to be in control, rely heavily on others for their approval and believe that you must be perfect, you have many things in common with other adult daughters. This book represents many of the stories of childhood pain and the paths to recovery that have been found by many *Perfect Daughters*.



B544	Softcover	200 pages	\$8.95
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## Bookstore Order Form

If different from mailing label

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City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Payment may be check, money order, or MasterCard/Visa (all non-U.S. orders MasterCard/Visa only) payable to:  
Christian Healing Ministries

Visa or MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Item#	Title	Quan.	Price
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Sub-Total \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping 10% of Sub-total  
or [Min. \$2.00 max \$10.00] \_\_\_\_\_

**Florida Residents only add Sales Tax:**

Jacksonville Residents add 6.5% Sales Tax \_\_\_\_\_

Other Florida locations add 6% Sales Tax \_\_\_\_\_

Bookstore total \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total

Allow 3-4 weeks delivery

Date	Event	Location	Speaker	Contact & Phone
3/13/97 - 3/15/97	Cregmore Presbyterian Church Wayne and Suzy Wood	Columbia International University Hoke Auditorium, Columbia, SC	The MacNutts	Wayne Wood (803) 561-9571
4/11/97 - 4/13/97	St. Luke's Women's Conference St. Luke's Episcopal Church	Cleveland, OH	Judith MacNutt	Rose Marie Edwards (216) 562-3391
4/21/97 - 4/23/97	1997 Healing Conference in Chapel Hill	New Life, Inc. Chapel Hill, NC	The MacNutts Rev. Tommy Tyson	Paula Beitler (919) 933-5557
5/23/97 - 5/24/97	The Effective Father	Christian Healing Ministries Jacksonville, FL	John Ream	Ann Bauwens (904) 765-3332
6/26/97 - 6/28/97	Conference on Counseling and Inner Healing	LeTourneau University Longview, TX	Norma Dearing	Bill White (903) 295-1733
6/29/97 - 7/3/97	Annual Fishnet Conference	Rutland, VT	The MacNutts Rev. Joe Girzone	Rena Larson (802) 773-7210
7/17/97 - 7/24/97	Episcopal Church National Convention	Philadelphia, PA	Information Booth Only	Ann Bauwens (904) 765-3332
8/7/97 - 8/9/97	San Diego Healing Conference	Point Loma College San Diego, CA	The MacNutts Barbara Shlemon-Ryan	Karen Knab 3516 Tony Dr. San Diego, CA 92122
9/15/97 - 9/19/97	School of Healing Prayer - Level III	CHM Campus Jacksonville, FL	The MacNutts CHM Staff	Ann Bauwens (904) 765-3332
10/10/97 - 10/12/97	Fishnet Conference for Christian Healing Ministry	Tara-Stamford Hotel Stamford, CT	The MacNutts Rev. Don Williams	Rena Larson (802) 773-7210
11/13/97 - 11/15/97	Annual Therapist Conference Sexual Addictions	Holiday Inn Airport Jacksonville, FL	Dr. Patrick Carnes The MacNutts	Ann Bauwens' (904) 765-3332

## Books We Have Written

### by Francis MacNutt

Sometimes people ask which of our books on healing to purchase. Just looking at the titles, you might not be able to figure out which aspect of healing they cover. I hope that this explanation clarifies what is in each book.

1. **Healing** — This is the first book (1974) I wrote about healing, and people as diverse as John Wimber and the late Agnes Sanford have been kind enough to call it a "classic." It is a general book that introduces a serious student to the healing ministry. It is available in two versions:

- The "Catholic" version (Ave Maria Press and Image Paperbacks) contains references to various Catholic practices related to healing, such as the sacraments and various liturgical blessings used in the Catholic Church. (B067 \$7.95)

- The "Evangelical" version (Creation House) with a forward by John Wimber, is directed to a broader range of Christian viewpoints. Since some Protestants found a few Catho-

lic practices confusing, I rewrote parts of *Healing* so that all Christians could benefit from the basic Biblical understanding of healing and the practice of the first Christians, without getting sidetracked by the traditional Catholic practices. (B065 \$8.99)

2. **The Power to Heal** (1977, Ave Maria Press) — Shortly after I wrote *Healing*, I wrote this sequel, which shares many of the discoveries and practical difficulties you will encounter when you start praying with the sick. Here is where I first dealt with "soaking prayer" and with the difficulty of sometimes having to say "No" to people seeking your prayers. (B045 \$6.95)

3. **The Prayer that Heals** (1981, Ave Maria Press) — This is a very simple, practical book to give to families and individuals who simply want to know **how** to pray in various situations. It is simple, practical, inexpensive, and you can read it quickly if you are pressed for time. (B047 \$3.95)

4. **Praying for Your Unborn Child** (1988, Bantam-Doubleday) — Judith

and I co-authored this book when our two children were on the way. We wrote it to share with parents the exciting things we had learned about how to pray for their unborn children. We wish that all young married couples would read it. (B048 \$9.95)

5. **Overcome by the Spirit** (1990, Chosen Books) — For years people have "rested in the Spirit" when we prayed for them; then it became such a controversial feature of many conferences and churches (such as the Toronto Airport Church) that I thought it would be helpful to give a balanced account of its history and its benefits, together with some of the dangers. (It was perhaps the most enjoyable book for me to write). (B231 \$9.99)

6. **Deliverance from Evil Spirits** (1995, Chosen Books) — This title is self-explanatory. My hope is that it will be for the deliverance ministry what *Healing* has been for the healing ministry. All pastors should read this (or some similar balanced book) to explain this often misunderstood ministry. (B506 \$14.99)

# Keys For Prayer Ministers

## Importance of Cutting Yourself Free After Ministering



**by Norma Dearing,  
Director of Prayer  
Ministry**

*Editor's Note: We are pleased to present Keys For Prayer Ministers, a new section of our newsletter written*

*by Norma Dearing, Director of Prayer Ministry. Norma has twelve years experience in the healing ministry and has been with CHM since 1986 when the ministry moved to Jacksonville. She develops the curriculum for CHM's School of Healing Prayer, oversees all prayer-ministry training and all volunteer prayer ministry at the Center.*

Christians who are in ministry or the helping professions are continually interacting with many who are not only sick physically, but mentally and emotionally as well. Many times these people have demonic oppression, either because of occult involvement,

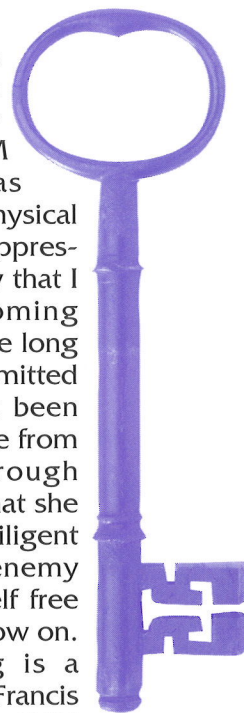
generational bondage, previous traumas or habitual sin. Because of this, it is vital to learn the discipline of cutting ourselves free from these influences **after** ministry. We do not want to allow the residue of oppression to come off of our clients and onto us. Remember, "Satan roams like a lion looking for someone to devour" — 1 Peter 5:8. This residue of oppression is gradual and many times we do not recognize it until we become physically ill, discouraged or suffer burnout.

At CHM we minister often to burned out priests, ministers, social workers, counselors, nurses, etc. They are weighted down by the sorrows and brokenness they have responded to in those they help, and by their everyday encounter with some of the most sinful aspects of our world. It is vital for caregivers to release these people and their sorrows to the Lord Jesus as soon as possible. "Cast your cares upon me, for I care for you. My burden is easy and my yoke is light."—

Matthew 11:30.

I prayed for a prison chaplain just yesterday who called CHM because she was having serious physical problems. The oppression was so heavy that I could feel it coming through the phone long distance! She admitted that she has not been cutting herself free from the inmates through prayer, but said that she would become diligent in binding the enemy and cutting herself free every day from now on.

The following is a prayer written by Francis MacNutt that all CHM prayer ministers use after each appointment. Be good to yourself and use it. Stay healthy and God bless!



### A Prayer To Be Set Free Following Ministry

- Lord Jesus, thank you for sharing with me your wonderful ministry of healing and deliverance. Thank you for the healings I have seen and experienced today. But I realize that the sickness and evil I encounter is more than our humanity can bare. So cleanse me of any sadness, negativity or despair that I may have picked up.
- If my ministry has tempted me to anger, impatience or lust, cleanse me of those temptations and replace them with love, joy and peace. If any evil spirits have attached themselves to me or oppress me in any way, I command them to depart - now - and go straight to

Jesus Christ, for Him to deal with as He will.

- Come Holy Spirit, renew me, fill me anew with your power, your life and your joy. Strengthen me where I have felt weak and clothe me with your light. Fill me with life.
- And Lord Jesus, please send your holy angels to minister to me and my family - and to guard us and protect us from all sickness, harm and accidents. (And guard us on a safe trip home.) We praise you now and forever, Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

- Francis MacNutt

### Mission Statement

*Christian Healing Ministries is a Christ-centered organization  
dedicated to praying for healing,  
and encouraging and teaching people to pray for healing.*



# Will The Voice Of The Bird Be Silenced?

by Francis MacNutt

Perhaps what I am to say here will touch only some of you. But for you, it may be very important news, and for the rest, it is also important, especially if you have never thought about it. I have to admit I never thought about this topic until a few years ago I always thought about praying for healing, in terms of healing for sickness.

So what is this new realization? It's simply that I better start thinking about praying for the aging process. Although I'm not sick, some parts of me seem to be wearing out. I hear cracking in my neck when I turn my head, and there's a place in my right knee that hurts when I go upstairs. I hear creaking and crackling and feel pains that I never used to have. Yet, I'm very healthy.

You can see a dramatic example of this ordinary slowing down process when you read the U.S. standard of excellence for track performance. I've been entering a few seniors' track meets, so naturally, I'm interested in what I might be running or throwing (I've recently taken up the javelin) compared to others. It really is amazing when we compare the distances and speeds achieved at different ages. If you are a 30 year old male, it would be excellent to run 100 meters in 11 seconds, but by the time you reach 70, you can expect to drop to 15 seconds. And in the javelin, it would be excellent if you threw it 203.5 feet at 30, but at 70 you would do well to throw it less than half that, at 95 feet (and you are allowed to throw a lighter javelin after 60!).

The last chapter of Ecclesiastes (12:4-5) describes it this way:

When the voice of the bird is silenced,  
and song notes are stilled,  
when to go uphill is an ordeal  
and a walk is something to dread;

These realistic but gloomy thoughts are not new, of course. But I've never read anywhere in a book on healing, anything about healing the aging process. Isn't this amazing, considering that we all will face this question unless we die an

untimely death? Do we just gracefully accept gradually falling apart? Or, are the conditions of aging something we can pray to slow down or reverse? Yes, I believe we can do something by asking God's life and strength to fill and renew every part of us.

It's not like the healing of disease, because aging is natural. After a joint has moved so many times, its cushioning (cartilage) wears down, and one bone grinding on another bone creates inflammation. It's like my 1991 car with 82,000 miles on it. It's a wonderful car, remarkable for its age, but can it continue on in the same condition until it reaches 200,000 miles? At the very least there are scratches on its finish. But, just as the car can be restored in many ways, I also believe we can pray to hold back or even restore many

of the effects of the aging process. The rather worldly author of Ecclesiastes also says, "However great the number of years a man may live, let him enjoy them all, and yet remember that dark days will be many" (11:8). I believe in my own life that I can see the results of the prayers of so many friends, and especially Judith, for my hearing is excellent and I can still read without glasses.

To my shame, I remember the days when I was impatient with older people, driving their big cars so slowly, meandering down the aisles of grocery stores, taking forever to count out their change at the check-out counter. So, one improvement in my attitude is that I'm learning to be more patient with others, as well as myself.

So now we're learning a new thing, and that's always exciting: We can pray for new life, even as we grow older. As I said above, I don't recall finding anything about this in all of the books on healing I've ever read (although somewhere, someone must

have written about it). And yet it's a question you will be asking yourself, in the future, if not now.

Another fascinating question (I don't have the answer) is: "Would Jesus have grown old in the way we do, if he had not been killed in his 30's?" Praying to counteract the effects of aging is so different from praying to be healed of illness from a virus or a bacteria. What we are praying for here is more like a creative miracle: "Lord, please restore

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Bible Verses About The Aging Process

- **Deut 34: 7** Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.
- **Deut 33: 25** ... your strength will equal your days.
- **Ps 92: 12-15** The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,  
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;  
planted in the house of the LORD,  
they will flourish in the courts of our God.  
They will still bear fruit in old age,  
they will stay fresh and green,  
proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;  
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."
- **Isa. 40:30-31** Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
They will walk and not be faint.
- **Is 46:3-4** "Listen to me, O house of Jacob,  
all you who remain of the house of Israel,  
you whom I have upheld since you were conceived,  
and have carried since your birth.  
Even to your old age and gray hairs  
I am he, I am he who will sustain you.  
I have made you and I will carry you;  
I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

# Will The Voice Of The Bird Be Silenced?

by Francis MacNutt

Perhaps what I am to say here will touch only some of you. But for you, it may be very important news, and for the rest, it is also important, especially if you have never thought about it. I have to admit I never thought about this topic until a few years ago I always thought about praying for healing, in terms of healing for sickness.

So what is this new realization? It's simply that I better start thinking about praying for the aging process. Although I'm not sick, some parts of me seem to be wearing out. I hear cracking in my neck when I turn my head, and there's a place in my right knee that hurts when I go upstairs. I hear creaking and crackling and feel pains that I never used to have. Yet, I'm very healthy.

You can see a dramatic example of this ordinary slowing down process when you read the U.S. standard of excellence for track performance. I've been entering a few seniors' track meets, so naturally, I'm interested in what I might be running or throwing (I've recently taken up the javelin) compared to others. It really is amazing when we compare the distances and speeds achieved at different ages. If you are a 30 year old male, it would be excellent to run 100 meters in 11 seconds, but by the time you reach 70, you can expect to drop to 15 seconds. And in the javelin, it would be excellent if you threw it 203.5 feet at 30, but at 70 you would do well to throw it less than half that, at 95 feet (and you are allowed to throw a lighter javelin after 60!).

The last chapter of Ecclesiastes (12:4-5) describes it this way:

When the voice of the bird is silenced,  
and song notes are stilled,  
when to go uphill is an ordeal  
and a walk is something to dread;

These realistic but gloomy thoughts are not new, of course. But I've never read anywhere in a book on healing, anything about healing the aging process. Isn't this amazing, considering that we all will face this question unless we die an

untimely death? Do we just gracefully accept gradually falling apart? Or, are the conditions of aging something we can pray to slow down or reverse? Yes, I believe we can do something by asking God's life and strength to fill and renew every part of us.

It's not like the healing of disease, because aging is natural. After a joint has moved so many times, its cushioning (cartilage) wears down, and one bone grinding on another bone creates inflammation. It's like my 1991 car with 82,000 miles on it. It's a wonderful car, remarkable for its age, but can it continue on in the same condition until it reaches 200,000 miles? At the very least there are scratches on its finish. But, just as the car can be restored in many ways, I also believe we can pray to hold back or even restore many

of the effects of the aging process. The rather worldly author of Ecclesiastes also says, "However great the number of years a man may live, let him enjoy them all, and yet remember that dark days will be many" (11:8). I believe in my own life that I can see the results of the prayers of so many friends, and especially Judith, for my hearing is excellent and I can still read without glasses.

To my shame, I remember the days when I was impatient with older people, driving their big cars so slowly, meandering down the aisles of grocery stores, taking forever to count out their change at the check-out counter. So, one improvement in my attitude is that I'm learning to be more patient with others, as well as myself.

So now we're learning a new thing, and that's always exciting: We can pray for new life, even as we grow older. As I said above, I don't recall finding anything about this in all of the books on healing I've ever read (although somewhere, someone must

have written about it). And yet it's a question you will be asking yourself, in the future, if not now.

Another fascinating question (I don't have the answer) is: "Would Jesus have grown old in the way we do, if he had not been killed in his 30's?" Praying to counteract the effects of aging is so different from praying to be healed of illness from a virus or a bacteria. What we are praying for here is more like a creative miracle: "Lord, please restore

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Bible Verses About The Aging Process

- **Deut 34: 7** Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone.
- **Deut 33: 25** ... your strength will equal your days.
- **Ps 92: 12-15** The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,  
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;  
planted in the house of the LORD,  
they will flourish in the courts of our God.  
They will still bear fruit in old age,  
they will stay fresh and green,  
proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;  
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."
- **Isa. 40:30-31** Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
They will walk and not be faint.
- **Is 46:3-4** "Listen to me, O house of Jacob,  
all you who remain of the house of Israel,  
you whom I have upheld since you were conceived,  
and have carried since your birth.  
Even to your old age and gray hairs  
I am he, I am he who will sustain you.  
I have made you and I will carry you;  
I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

# Q&A Forum

by Francis MacNutt

## About the Binding Prayer

### A Binding Prayer For Protection

- In the name of Jesus Christ, by the power of his cross and blood, we bind the spirits, powers and forces of the earth, the underground, the air, the water, the fire, the netherworld and the satanic forces of nature.
- We rebuke any curses, hexes, or spells sent against us and send them directly to Jesus for him to deal with as he will. Lord, we ask you to bless our enemies by sending

your Holy Spirit to lead them to repentance.

- We bind all interplay, interaction and communication of evil spirits.
- We claim the protection of the shed blood of Jesus Christ over — *(add people, places and things you want protected here)*.
- Thank you for your protection, Lord. Amen

**Q** Why, when you are praying for protection or deliverance, do you use the terms “spirits of earth, air, fire, water and of the netherworld and of nature?” Where did you find those categories of spirits?

**A** These ancient categories used in deliverance prayers sum up all the areas of creation where spirits seem to lodge or come from in order to harm us. The ancient understanding of science was that there were four basic elements that make up the created world we see around us: “earth, air, fire and water.” Today, we have a more sophisticated, complex understanding of the elements that make up the universe. Fifty years ago in college I learned the Periodic Table of elements, which kept getting enlarged as scientists kept discovering more and more elements. Now scientists are discovering something of the mysteries of the subatomic world and of various force fields. But that gets too complicated for most of us as we try to make up an inclusive prayer, so our deliverance prayer is just a very simple way of listing all the places where evil spirits may lodge.

This is something like Christian counselors using the ancient temperamental categories of “sanguine, choleric, melancholic and phlegmatic.” Even though we now have more complex categories, such as the 16 types of the Myers-Briggs personality inventory, there is still a great deal of truth in dividing our temperaments into those four ancient categories. And it’s a lot easier to remember.

The other two categories in our prayer; “of the netherworld and of nature” refer to:

a) of the “netherworld” (or “underworld”) is the same as Hell. Evil spirits that dwell in Hell are technically called “demons.” These demons, in general, are more destructive and powerful than ordinary evil or unclean spirits.

b) of “nature” this term would include any spirits that come from any part of the natural world not included by

“earth, air, fire and water.”

**So when we pray to cast out or bind off the influence of evil spirits in these six areas of creation, we are just covering all the bases in a very simple way.**

In no way do we want to get into a kind of legalism that implies you have to pray with these particular categories or your prayer won’t work. Our prayer is just an example of how you can pray, but if you come up with another prayer, which is better for you, that’s fine.

A further reason for using these six categories is that these are the categories of spirits used by the Satanists themselves when they call upon evil spirits or demons and send them out to harass and attack people. In using these same terms, we are directly counteracting the evil that Satanic covens are attempting to direct against us. By the way, we learned this prayer from Fr. Richard McAlear and Betty Brennan, who have had extensive experience in praying for deliverance. Incidentally, Fr. McAlear had finished the manuscript for a book on deliverance when a mysterious fire started in his office while he was away and destroyed all he had done — A “spirit of fire”?

Perhaps it was the evil spirits riling up the wind and waves that Jesus was rebuking when he calmed the storm. Judith had an interesting experience once when she was praying for a group using our deliverance prayer with its six categories. There was a man present who was simply relaxing while he listened to the prayer. Suddenly, when Judith uttered the word “netherworld,” he felt the powerful surge of some force within him — a demon who recognized the prayer’s authority and fled.

# Praise Reports

by Joy Lamb

## Prayer Requests

Please be assured that your personal prayer requests are still the number one priority at CHM. We consistently send out about 6,000 personal requests every two months, and over 500 intercessors pray for these needs on a daily basis. As intercessors, we also pray and fast for these other issues. Many of CHM's prayer ministers, staff and interces-

sors are fasting and praying with great intention for the healing of our nation. This is in addition to lifting up to the Lord specific personal prayer requests from those who call and write to us.



## From the Mailbox

I had been trying to get pregnant for 15 years, until I gave up two years ago. I recently asked for prayer for this, thinking we have tried everything else — this probably won't hurt! Well, I am so excited to tell you that I am pregnant!!! Thank you with all my heart for your prayers.

My cancer continues in remission and a recent bone scan shows fewer tumors. I am so grateful for your prayers.

Our little friend was operated on for a brain tumor at age four. The doctors did not encourage us. We had asked your group to pray for him. He just celebrated his sixth birthday, and he is doing just great. He is energetic and so strong, a wondrous change from his last two birthdays. We thank God very day for his miraculous healing. He loves kindergarten and is doing very well. Thank you so much for your prayers. We are so grateful.

*Received over the phone —* While praying, using *Sword of the Spirit*, for a neighbor's surgery for cancer of the colon, a lady reported that not only did the surgery go well for her neighbor, with a good prognosis for the future, but she had received an unexpected prayer bonus herself. As she read the prayers out of the book for a few days, she found that she had to remove her glasses to see the type. A little concerned, she went to her eye doctor who confirmed that her eye sight was now inexplicably perfect! Her own eye sight was restored to 20/20 vision as she prayed for her friend's cancer. God is so faithful and good!

Last week I called for prayer for my daughter who was suffering with pain. You said you would put us on the prayer list. A few days later she passed the kidney stone without any pain. This is unheard of... Thank you so much for your prayers. The Lord is so good.

We put a friend on the prayer list who was pregnant and doctors believed she also had an ovarian tumor that was cancerous. She had a baby boy, and the doctors said that the tumor was gone. No cancer, and no surgery! This woman did not want prayer, but it has changed her life.

## *The Healing Line...*

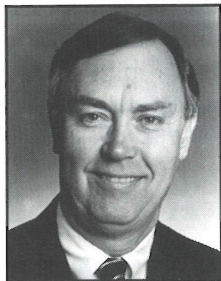
*The Healing Line* is published quarterly by Christian Healing Ministries, Inc., P.O. Box 9520, Jacksonville, Florida 32208, under the direction of Francis MacNutt. The publication is distributed freely upon request and exists to further the teaching goals of the ministry. No advertising is accepted — Joyce M. Abney, Editor



## News & Views

### Counting the Blessings of 1996

by David Busse,  
Executive Director



Our Lord has richly and abundantly blessed Christian Healing Ministries during 1996. The blessings have been so many and they are so profound that it is impossible to list them all, but here are a few that we want to share with you who have supported us in prayer and provision:

- 70 volunteer prayer ministers completed their training and began praying in teams of two, with people coming to our center in Jacksonville.

- CHM Staff developed and presented the School of Healing Prayer Levels I and II. These teachings were presented at CHM's week-long seminars to participants from throughout the United States. The source of these schools are courses CHM developed to train our own prayer ministers. Response to these courses has been enthusiastic.

- Video recordings of the School of Healing Prayer Levels I and II have been produced and edited. All are now available to assist Christian groups everywhere begin a ministry of prayer for healing.

- Prayer teams under the direction of Francis, Judith and Dr. Dale Matthews MD completed the first of several phases of study designed to scientifically document the healing power of Christian prayer.

- Among the many speaking and teaching events lead by Francis and Judith, and/or the CHM staff were:

- Francis addressed 200 medical professionals in Germany.

- Francis and Judith spoke to two Catholic groups in Hawaii.

- Francis, Judith, and Norma led an Episcopal conference in Houston, followed by Francis and Norma addressing medical professionals at a Houston hospital and a healing center.

- Francis and Judith spoke at a Catholic Charismatic conference in Orlando, and a Methodist Charismatic confer-

ence in Nashville.

- Francis and Judith continued their participation in FISHNET conferences.

- CHM's campus in Jacksonville was re-landscaped, our chapel painted inside and out and new lighting and carpeting installed. These much-needed improvements were made possible as a result of special gifts from staff and volunteers.

- CHM's financial position improved significantly in 1996 with revenues

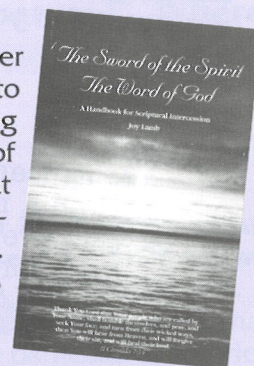
exceeding expenses! Most of these contributions were received in December, in response to our last newsletter. We are very grateful for your generous outpouring of support. In addition, we received several designated gifts for an operating endowment.

All of us at CHM—volunteers, staff and board members—thank you for your gifts to the ministry of time, talent and treasure, and most importantly, for your prayers throughout the year. Without a solid base of support from the Body of Christ, CHM could not carry out the ministry of prayer and teaching that the Lord has called us to perform.

## Intercessory Groups Using *Sword of the Spirit*

by Joy Lamb

For those of you who have started your own prayer groups using *Sword of the Spirit*, about 3500 groups to date, I want to encourage you and to thank you for being such a part of my answered prayer. When the thought of this little prayer book was first birthed, I had a vision that the book would be used across America by people praying God's Word in agreement for the healing of our land. I am watching this happen in the most amazing way as our prayers join with those of other Christians around the nation. (B467 \$7.95)



### Answered Prayer for America:

- Crime in New York City is the lowest since 1976 and is decreasing in major cities across the nation.
- TV and film industries are starting to get religion ... TNT in tandem with European producers this month aired it's fifth Bible miniseries ... "We were frankly surprised at how good a response we got from viewers. These movies depiction of God or a deity is very intelligent." — Washington Times.
- "Jesus On-line — How the Internet is shaping our views of faith and religion," *Time's* cover December 16. On October 15, I made a specific plea to CHM intercessors to pray that the Internet become a major tool for God's message, and for the media to report this in a positive way. Six weeks later our prayer was certainly answered!
- Here in Jacksonville, the *Times Union* ran a five-day series "God in the Locker Room". These articles told how sports figures and their fans are publicly claiming Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

**Please continue to pray and fast for the specific issues concerning our Nation as listed in *Sword of the Spirit*, pages 27, 28 and 29. Our prayers are bearing fruit!**

# Reflections

**(Continued from page 2)**

cution—we are to expect both, and in this life, too. Yet, it seems more common for many Christians to emphasize bearing the cross, than experiencing spiritual joy and peace. **I think the whole “laughing phenomenon” associated with the Toronto Airport Church and Rodney Howard-Browne’s ministry is God righting the balance. This gift of laughter is an outpouring of grace that brings much needed joy, freedom, healing and revival fire to the Church.**

Easter, the greatest feast of the Christian year, is like a giant exorcism. Jesus took all the evil of the world into himself: physical suffering, abandonment (by friends, as well as seemingly, by his Father) and finally death itself, the apparent victory of Satan. Then all this evil, compacted into his spirit and body, was expelled on that first Easter. God transformed it all into life; and now as our risen Lord, he sends us his life, his joy, his peace and his health, even in this life, and fully in the next life.

If we don’t see as much life, as much joy, as we would

like to see in our churches, it must be that we are not as united to Jesus in his life as we need to be. This inpouring of life comes through the Holy Spirit, and I believe we need a mighty renewing of prayer for the empowering of the Spirit in order to experience the kind of vibrant lives which are our high privilege. We believe and we walk Jesus’ path in part, but not as fully as we could.

When I receive communion do I truly sense its power? It’s not just a bite of food to remind me of Jesus, but the bread represents Jesus’ body, broken for me. The wine signifies his blood, poured out for me. If I allow my self-will to be broken for him, and my life spilled out in obedience to his will, then he will feed me with the bread of life itself, and fill me with the joyous wine of the Spirit. Because of Jesus great Easter victory, when it comes time for us to experience our Good Friday, in place of abandonment we will find Jesus at our side to lead us into the resurrection light where we will see God, life itself, and all our friends who have gone before us into that joyous kingdom!

## Level I Video Series Now Available For Churches and Ministry Groups

### Level I Video Course

Order #	Title	Contents	Price
AVL 1-SET	Level I-Complete Course Materials	11 Videos, 11 Audio tapes. 1 - Instructor’s Manual, 1- Student’s Manual	\$395.00
ALI-IS	Level I School of Healing Prayer	11 Audio tapes,	\$50.00
SML1	Level I - Student's Manual	1 Student's Manual	\$10.00

### Level I Individual Videos

Order #	Video Title	Speaker	Minutes	Price
VL1-1	<i>Introduction to Healing</i>	Francis MacNutt	60	\$29.95
VL1-2	<i>Four Types of Healing</i>	Francis MacNutt	40	\$29.95
VL1-3	<i>Physical Healing</i>	Francis MacNutt	60	\$29.95
VL1-4/5	<i>Inner Healing and Forgiveness Prayers</i>	Judith MacNutt/Norma Dearing	120	\$59.95
VL1-6	<i>Salvation and Baptism in the Holy Spirit</i>	Peter and Norma Dearing	60	\$29.95
VL1-7	<i>Introduction to Prayer Ministry</i>	Norma Dearing	60	\$29.95
VL1-8	<i>Conducting the Initial Interview</i>	Norma Dearing	60	\$29.95
VL1-9	<i>Renouncing Occult Involvement</i>	Sandi Kerner	60	\$29.95
VL1-10	<i>Generational Healing &amp; Eucharist</i>	The Rev. Bob Kerner	60	\$29.95
VL1-11	<i>Developing Prayer Teams</i> <i>Intercessory Prayer</i>	Arlene Doro/Joy Lamb	60	\$29.95

## School Of Healing Prayer: Level II Video Course

Christian Healing Ministries has recently completed the video series for The School of Healing Prayer Level II. First presented in September, this course is the second in our teaching series designed to enable churches and Christian communities everywhere to understand and practice Christ’s ministry of prayer for healing. This video teaching series and supporting student’s and instructor’s manuals build on the Level I instruction, and lead prayer ministers through a progressive understanding of our Lord’s healing ministry, team building, and praying for specific conditions and situations encountered in ministry.

The Level II video recordings are presently being edited and along with printed materials will be available mid-summer 1997. Level II is a 16-tape series and includes both an Instructor’s and a Student’s Manual for \$550. Contact Ann Bauwens for more information: (904) 765-3332.

## Silence

(Continued from page 7)

the disintegrated disc," or whatever. It's not so much "take away" (the sickness) as it is "add" (the vitality, cushioning, etc.) and "restore" (the nerves in my ear).

Yet, there is a "taking away" we can pray for: the taking away of pain. Personally, I believe that many of the pains that afflict the elderly (and, in turn, tend to lead to sadness and melancholy) will be taken away or, at least, diminished if we ask the Lord. This is not just a theory, because we have seen pain go away so often as we pray.

Of course, we accept the fact that at some point we must die; Lazarus, resurrected from the dead by Jesus, is no longer with us. But wouldn't it be ideal if we might simply die, in our sleep perhaps, with our mind and most of our senses intact? Is this being to idealistic? There is bound to be some slowing down; I don't expect to throw a javelin 200 feet, it's just that some effects of aging seem to go counter to human dignity, and I think we can pray about some of those aspects. So, I now believe that some of the effects of the aging process can be slowed down, or even turned back. And this is part of the Good News.

## Ministry Events and Hours

### Prayer Ministry by appointment:

Monday through Friday  
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

### Tuesday Evening Prayer Ministry:

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
(no appointment required)

### Eucharist for the Healing of Generations:

Second Tuesday of every month  
6:00 pm

### Telephone Numbers:

Office: (904) 765-3332

Office Fax: (904) 765-4224

### Voice Mail:

Prayer Requests: (904) 765-9892

Prayer Appointments: (904) 765-9239

Bookstore: (904) 765-9436

Francis and Judith MacNutt

Betty Heindel, Administrative Assistant (904) 765-7566

Intercessory Prayer Request: Joy Lamb (904) 765-9892

Bookstore: Barbara Newman (904) 765-9436

Prayer Appointments & Volunteer Scheduling (904) 765-9239

Conference Coordinator: Ann Bauwens (904) 765-8412

Executive Director: David Busse (904) 765-8663

Director of Prayer Ministry: Norma Dearing (904) 765-9078



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