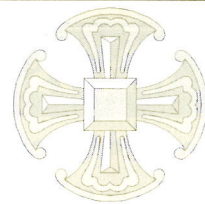


The Healing Line



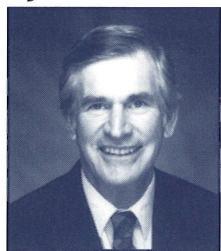
Volume 11 Issue 4

Winter 1998

Christian Healing Ministries, Inc.

The Healing We Find at the Manger

by Francis MacNutt



Soon you will hear Christmas sermons in which preachers worry about how commercialism and Santa Claus have crowded Jesus' birth out of this glorious

season. Of course, they are right. Even without the sermons to remind us, there are so many invitations to respond to, so many cards to send, so many presents to buy, that Christmas certainly feels crowded and rushed.

But a more subtle force robs us of the real impact of Christmas. It is what we ourselves have done to Christmas. We have beautified Christmas, made it a pretty scene with Hummel-like figures of Mary and Joseph holding the newborn babe up to the adoring shepherds and peaceful animals. Angels sing, and the sky glows with stars. All of this is true.

Yet, there is something deeper in the Gospel accounts which speaks far more profoundly to our wounded humanity. What we see is an incredible account of Almighty God becoming a human being just like us. It really is unbelievable: the all-powerful God who created the sun, moon and stars, terrified the Israelites with lightning on Mt. Sinai, wiped out an Assyrian army, whom the Jews dared not approach in the Holy of Holies — this God unexpectedly appears as a tiny human babe, helpless and weak, wrapped in a diaper ("swaddling clothes"), totally dependent upon His mother Mary and His earthly father Joseph.

What we have obscured is how harsh that first Christmas truly was. Jesus not only became a human, but He joined us on the very lowest rung of existence.

He was born to a mother who was not yet married and whose future husband considered not marrying her be-

cause of what seemed to be an illegitimate birth. What did their relatives and neighbors think as she grew in size? She was probably about 14 years old (the usual marriage age in those days), and Joseph was not much older — two teenagers, who did not have enough clout to get a room at the inn. What was it like to travel all that way just before giving birth? And what was the birth like with no midwife to help?



Finally, they found a stable, which we have so glamorized, a dirty place to keep animals, not people. After Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph put him in the only spot available — an animals' feeding trough (which we sanitize by calling it a "manger"). Then, the only people to come and celebrate the feast of the first-born male, an occasion for great rejoicing in any Jewish family (compare it with the birth of John the Baptist in Luke 1:57-8), were shepherds. To us, shepherds are quaint and romantic, but in Jesus' day they were reputed among the "godless." Like Gentiles, they were restricted to the outer court of the temple, the rejects of their day.

Today, it would be as if Jesus was born to an unwed teenage mother in a dirty garage and was placed in an empty dog food box, and several

homeless people were the only ones to find out and offer congratulations to the wandering, lonely parents.

Herod was ready to kill Jesus, who soon became a refugee in Africa. Where were the religious leaders who were waiting for the Messiah? The only religious figures to arrive on the scene were three Gentiles, and not only were they outsiders but they were astrologers. We glamorize their role, as well, by using the terms "Three Kings," or "Magi."

We have "sanitized" three words: "magi," "manger" and "swaddling clothes." The stark reality of that first Christmas is too much for us to take.

Jesus identified not only with ordinary people, but with our rejects, both societal and religious. Jesus' rejection at the inn forecast His ultimate rejection and shameful death. In fact, the only romantic part about the Gospel account was the appearance of the joyful choir of angels — heaven's response. But the human response was small indeed.

All this says much about Jesus, who came to heal us. He bent down and became one of us — and not only one of us, but one of the LEAST of us.

No matter how shameful our sin, how debilitating our sickness, or how much we have been rejected, Jesus is approachable. He understands, because He has been through it all. By His wounds, we are healed. Jesus was a "thing despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering" (Isaiah 53:2b). Long before His crucifixion, His identification with our wounded human condition was evident in that first Christmas.

"It is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though He is without sin" (Hebrews 4:15). And that is Good News.

Christmas Through A Looking Glass

by Dale S. Recinella

A Word from Francis MacNutt:

After writing my cover story on the deeper meaning of Christmas, our friend Dale Recinella sent me the following section of his journal which is a striking follow-up to my reflections. Because it is so easy to talk about the Gospel and not so easy to live it, I was excited about what Dale wrote, because he and his wife, Susan (and their children, too) are really trying their best to live Jesus' pattern of simplicity in a way that challenges me. I think it will challenge you, too.

Nothing could have prepared me for this. I process through the guard station and collect my chapel keys.

Spirals of razor wire are heaped two stories high on the three rows of electrified fence. The silver-grey teeth glisten like tinsel in the crisp morning air. A dozen inmates peer at me from the other side. They are huddling at the gate that separates the chapel from the prison compound.

"Merry Christmas," smiles the officer. My stomach tenses into a knot.

She hits the button that releases huge electric locks on the steel access doors. A loud bang echoes through the sally port. I step inside the prison. The knot in my belly tightens.

The inmates at the gate beat their arms, warming themselves against the December chill. Small clouds of breath hang in front of their blue fatigues.

Why does this picture jar me? The specifics are no different than usual. It should be just another day as a volunteer spiritual counselor at Florida's Apalachee Correctional Institution.

But this isn't just another day. It is Christmas Eve. In that moment, I am amazed that I have never wondered what Christmas is like behind bars.

Chapel appointments with volunteers are by "call-out," written requests pro-

cessed through administration. We open the chapel. A clerk hands me the day's roster — 19 call-outs. A normal morning is five.

I phone my wife. "I'll be here until six." I am wrong. We won't close the chapel until 9:30 that night. But there's no way I could know that. It's my first time in prison on the morning before Christmas.

I dig in with coffee and my first inmate appointment at 8:30 a.m. We pray and I ask, "What's on your heart this morning?"

"Give me a reason not to go for the wall," he whispers.

We both know the term is prison slang for feigning an escape attempt in front of the guards, in the hope they will have to kill you. Men are said to have done such things when they received a "Dear John" letter from a wife or learned of the death of a child. Is Christmas here that painful?

We talk, we cry, we pray. Man after man, blue shirt after blue shirt. Murderers. Rapists. Molesters. No one to call at Christmas. No one to write. No one to see. Relationships with children severed. Children adopted by other fathers. Children too far away to visit.

About five o'clock, I tell the clerks we need more "prison Kleenex." The rolls of toilet paper we unwrapped that morning are all down to the cardboard.

My last call-out, an intelligent and verbal man, has met regularly with me all year.

"I'm not saying I shouldn't be here." Tears tug at his eyes. "I did terrible things and don't even know why. I can understand why society wants me behind this fence. I'll be here for the rest of my life. But I'm a human being. I still need friends and re-

lationships with normal people. I'm a baptized, practicing Christian. Christmas is our day. Where are the Christians?"

My lame response about people confusing passion toward wrong-doers with approval of their bad behavior only angers him.

"Jesus said that when His followers visit an inmate, they visit HIM!" He grips the tissue roll with both hands. "Jesus didn't say the inmate had to be innocent. Why isn't anybody visiting Jesus at Christmas?"

Looking away, I stammer, "I don't know."

Soon, it's time for us to end.

"What do you want to pray for?" I ask.

He leans back in his chair, as if he is talking to the ceiling. "What do I want God to give me for Christmas?"

"Sure," I reply.

"That every Christmas all the prisons in Florida will be busting at the seams from all the Christians trying to get in to visit Jesus."

"Brother," I caution, "that prayer could take a long time to answer."

He shrugs, "I'll be here." ❄️

About 10 years ago, Dale S. Recinella



surrendered his Tallahassee law practice and was led into a ministry of inner healing and intercessory prayer with men on the streets and in prisons. He now lives

with his wife and six children in Macclenny, Florida, and ministers full-time as a prayer partner cell-to-cell on Florida's death row.

"The Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

— II Corinthians 1:3b-4

A New Millenium Brings New Opportunities for CHM

A Letter from Francis MacNutt

Dear Friends,

1998 has been a blessed year for CHM. As we reflect back over the last 12 months, it is amazing to see all God has done!

We have worked to refine the three-day Intensive Prayer Ministry and have been encouraged by its reception and success. IPM provides an opportunity for those suffering from sickness — physical, emotional and spiritual — to receive the extended time they might need for prayer. This prayer format worked so well that we have added an additional monthly prayer opportunity: the Day of Healing Prayer, in which people who cannot devote three full days of their time may come to CHM for prayer.

Subsequently, we hired a new person to oversee these two vital aspects of ministry, as well as to coordinate volunteers and teach classes for new prayer ministers. We engaged the help of an Episcopal priest to celebrate Eucharist and to pray with those wishing to pray specifically with a priest. We added a staff member in the area of communications/development to support the wealth of materials being produced and to pursue future communications-related projects. The addition of these three positions is a true answer to prayer.

The School of Healing Prayer is fulfilling its purpose: to help other Christian ministries, churches, prayer groups and individuals understand better our Lord's ministry of healing and how to pray for others. We completed the facilitator's manual for the School of Healing Prayer Level I, and we will complete the Level II manual by the end of 1998. This is a joyous accomplishment and is blessing many lives.


Judith and I, Norma Dearing, Ann Bauwens, Joy Lamb and others spoke at numerous conferences around the country and the world this year, including Alabama, Virginia, Ohio, Minnesota, Vermont, Colorado, Connecticut, Malta, London and Scotland. We are encour-

aged as we see God's Word of Healing, which the church has ignored for so long, once again recognized as an integral part of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Daily prayer appointments continue on a regular basis, as do Tuesday evening open prayer services and monthly Generational Eucharists. Our intercessory prayer program continues to bless many people through the gift of intercession.

As we look toward 1999 and the end of the millenium, a wealth of opportunities lie ahead of us. There are many projects to be pursued, such as the videotaping of the School of Healing Prayer Level III and completion of the accompanying manuals. We are

considering how to reach people through other media as well, such as the Internet and radio. There are conferences to be planned and taught, in addition to all of our regular teaching trips. There are relationships to be built, books to be written, teachings to be taped, and a vast number of hurting people to be prayed for. And in order to do all of these things, there is money to be raised.

Will you consider supporting Christian Healing Ministries as you regard your end-of-the-year giving? Your gift will go far in blessing and healing God's people. On behalf of Judith, myself and the staff of CHM, I thank you. 

Renew Your Subscription to The Healing Line

If you have NOT notified CHM of your desire to continue receiving *The Healing Line*, please send a \$20.00 contribution to help cover production and mailing. If you are unable to send a contribution, simply return the form, and we will keep you on the mailing list through our scholarship program. If you wish NOT to continue receiving the newsletter, let us know that, too. If you are a new addition to our mailing list, allow us to give you the newsletter free for one year.

CHM tries to be good stewards of our financial resources. Thus, our computer automatically removes names of those who have not ordered from the bookstore or sent a contribution within the last two years. Thank you for helping us.

Name: _____

ID# (from back cover): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

☐ Please keep me on your mailing list!

I have enclosed at least \$20.00 for my minimum contribution this year.

☐ Please keep me on your mailing list, though I am unable to support CHM financially at this time.

☐ Please take me off your mailing list.

☐ Please accept this additional donation of \$_____ to scholarship those unable to support CHM at this time.

Please return this form in the CHM envelope inserted in the newsletter.

Forgiveness: A Christmas Gift

by Roberta Simmons, CHM Prayer Minister

Forgiveness is, without a doubt, the most wonderful gift you can give anyone. It is a release from a prison of rejection, a leap into joy from despair, a balm of healing that restores life and self-worth. But it is altogether another matter to give that gift. Most of the time it is almost impossible to do, completely, without the touch of grace from on high.

On one of the first visits Judith and Francis MacNutt made to Jacksonville, I heard Judith give a talk on the healing of memories. She told the story of a little girl, now a grown woman, whose father had died at a hospital. The little girl had been left out in the hall and never allowed to tell her daddy good-bye. Judith took her back in her memory to that heartbreaking moment. The "little girl" saw Jesus coming down the hall. He came right to her chair and picked her up in His arms, and took her in to see her daddy. Her daddy sat up and took her from Jesus into his lap, and they hugged and kissed and talked. He told her he was going to go with Jesus but that he would see her again. She kissed her daddy good-bye, and Jesus took her in His arms back out into the hall. The "little girl" was healed of her wounded heart, and the grown woman was free to go on with her life.

As you can probably guess, Judith punched my button, rang my bell and pulled my chain. Things I had not thought about in years began to flood my mind, and I was awakened one night with the memory of Miss Tinkey, someone who hurt me terribly and drastically changed my life forever.

My childhood was engulfed in love. We lived with my Grandma and step-Grandpa. My Grandma adored me, probably because of all the problems I had, and she was so tenderhearted. I adored her, too. Even though she had three other grandchildren who were close to her in her younger years, I was the flower of her old age. I can remember so well sitting on her lap on the front porch as she rocked me and in her broken English told me stories of her childhood. I still miss her and that special love she gave so freely. My Grandpa was a kind and gentle man, a fisherman at heart, and I never realized he was not my own Grandfather, nor did it matter because he treated me with so much love and affection.

My Aunt Sue and Uncle Harry lived a few blocks away. They had only one son, so I was the little girl they never had. Aunt Sue was a seamstress and made every pretty dress I wore to Sunday School. I thought I was so lucky to have an aunt like her. Uncle Harry made me laugh a lot! We had loads of fun together, especially when we all went fishing and crabbing.

I was the apple of my daddy's eye, and we shared a very special bond. In the 43 years I was his daughter, through good times and bad, we loved each other. His weaknesses were many, but his heart was that of a child — a child without proper discipline who really didn't understand the real consequences of his actions. He would often look up to heaven and marvel at the beauty of the clouds or look at the loveliness of a rose and be amazed at God's creation.

One of the last memorable statements he made from his heart, on Thanksgiving Day 1978, before he had his heart attack the following January was, "Nothing will ever come above Jesus Christ with me." My brothers thought this was stupid coming from "the old drunk" but I heard a little lost child asking for understanding and forgiveness. I know he received these from his Heavenly Father. I thank God for my earthly daddy because he gave me such a compassion for anyone with weaknesses and addictions — and we all have them, don't we!

My mother has been the "angel" in my life and at 86, she still is. She is the only reason I made it through all the trials of my life. Because Jesus led her through her own trials, she showed me the way. I lived through major surgeries because she would kiss the palm of my hand each night before she left the hospital, leaving the red lipstick impression of her lips. She would tell me to hold my hand close to my heart and know she was right there with me all night long. She saved me from losing my mind in fear, and the nurses had to pry my fingers open to wash my hand the next morning.

I thought the whole world was like this, but I was wrong.

I was born with a cleft palate and had to endure five major surgeries between the ages of six months and five years, since it kept tearing out. I still remember in detail my last and hardest surgery: the ride on the gurney down the hall as they took me away from my mama; the big white light over me as they put me on a cold table; the people standing around me with their hair all covered in white caps and masks over their faces. All I could see was their eyes, and I tried to scream but something was put over my nose and it smelled so awful.

Miss Tinkey was a World War One ex-Army nurse and the first person I saw when I awoke from this operation. Since I was scared and in a lot of pain, I began to cry. It was then I realized they had tied my hands down and I couldn't move. They had packed my mouth, so I couldn't talk. I was also in a baby crib. What five-year-old wants to be in a baby crib?

**IF I say, "Yes, I forgive,
but I cannot forget," as
though the God who twice
a day washes all the sands
on all of the shores of all
the world could not wash
such memories from my
mind, then I know nothing
of Calvary love."**

— IF, by Amy Carmichael

— Continued on Page 7

REACHING OUT IN MINISTRY

Date	Event	Location	Speaker(s)	Contact & Phone
1/11/99	Day of Healing Prayer	CHM	Francis MacNutt and Staff	Beth Coleman at CHM (904) 765-3332
1/12-14/99	Intensive Prayer Ministry	CHM	CHM Prayer Ministers	Same
1/15-16-99	Stephen's Ministry Retreat	First United Methodist Church, Marietta, Georgia	Norma Dearing	Terry Cantrell (770) 427-2478
1/20-21/99	January Term at All Saints' Episcopal Church w/ Alliance Trinity Seminary	All Saints' Episcopal Church 3560 Kings River Road Pawley's Island, SC 29585	Francis MacNutt	Rev. Chuck Murphy (803) 237-4223
2/7-10/99	Jacksonville District Christian Enrichment School	Area UMC Churches Jacksonville, Florida	Ann Bauwens	Anita Reynolds (904) 268-5549
2/9-11/99	Intensive Prayer Ministry	CHM	CHM Prayer Ministers	Beth Coleman at CHM
2/15-19/99	Roman Catholic Diocese of Davenport, Iowa Clergy Conference	Highlander Hotel Iowa City, Iowa	Francis MacNutt	John Rodwick (719) 264-0667
2/22/99	Day of Healing Prayer	CHM	Francis MacNutt and Staff	Beth Coleman at CHM
2/25-28/99	1999 Southern California ACT Conference (licensed therapists only)	San Diego, California	Francis and Judith MacNutt	Holly Flow (760) 591-3340
3/5-6/99	Healing: Prescriptions for Body, Mind and Spirit (doctors only)	The Institute of Religion and Health, Charleston, SC	Francis MacNutt	Liz Mitchell (843) 577-3308
3/9-12/99	Intensive Prayer Ministry	CHM	CHM Prayer Ministers	Beth Coleman at CHM
3/26-27/99	Intercessors' Conference	CHM	Francis MacNutt, Joy Lamb, Norma Dearing and Staff	Ann Bauwens at CHM
3/29/99	Day of Healing Prayer	CHM	Francis MacNutt and Staff	Beth Coleman at CHM
4/14-18/99	International Convention of the Christian Association of Psychological Studies (licensed professionals only)	Sheraton Hotel Colorado Springs, CO	Francis MacNutt	John Rodwick (719) 264-0667
4/16-17/99	Order of St. Luke Healing Conference	St. John's Episcopal Church Naples, Florida	Norma Dearing	Joyce Pinney (941) 992-4208
4/20-22/99	Intensive Prayer Ministry	CHM	CHM Prayer Ministers	Beth Coleman at CHM
4/26/99	Day of Healing Prayer	CHM	Francis MacNutt and Staff	Beth Coleman at CHM
4/29-5/1/99	Women in the Harvest Conference	St. Luke's Episcopal Church Bath, Ohio	Judith MacNutt	Gretsie Ames (330) 666-0704
5/10/99	Day of Healing Prayer	CHM	Francis MacNutt and Staff	Beth Coleman at CHM
5/11-13/99	Intensive Prayer Ministry	CHM	CHM Prayer Ministers	Beth Coleman at CHM
5/17-20/99	School of Healing Prayer Level III	CHM	Francis and Judith MacNutt, Norma Dearing, Ann Bauwens, special guests	Ann Bauwens at CHM
6/7/99	Day of Healing Prayer	CHM	Francis MacNutt and Staff	Beth Coleman at CHM
6/10-13/99	1999 National Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference	University of Notre Dame	Francis and Judith MacNutt	Walter Matthews (540) 972-0225

KEYS FOR PRAYER MINISTERS: Let's "Do the Stuff!"

by Norma Dearing,
Director of
Prayer
Ministry



Many individuals, groups and Christian organizations have an avid interest in the healing ministry. They read books. They attend conferences where the subject of healing is presented by anointed speakers and teachers. They listen intently, take pages of notes and buy more tapes and books from conference bookstores. Most conference attendees take part in receiving prayer.

These are all necessary and important tools in learning how to minister effectively. But, there is another aspect more important than any of these: Ministry to one another.

Praying with one another allows you to experience praying with someone you know and will eventually trust. If you are both there because you love the Lord, want to be healed yourselves and bring the healing power of Jesus to a broken world, you already have a mutual bond. This is one of the most effective ways to initiate prayer teams and to build a healing prayer ministry.

Receiving healing prayer yourself is the best way to gain an understanding of the healing ministry. For instance, let's say you have fears that have prevented you from enjoying your life to the fullest. After you share some of these fears with your prayer partner and you've both learned enough about inner healing to know the importance of inviting Jesus into a memory, you begin to pray. During the prayer time you remember being lost in the woods at eight years of age, when you and your family were on a camping trip. You are able to experience again the fear and terror of being lost.

Your prayer partner begins to pray for the Lord Jesus to heal this memory. In the quietness of this prayer you see the Lord come into the woods looking

for you. You feel a tremendous warmth and peace come over you and the years of fear begin to melt away. In the weeks following this prayer experience you no longer feel fear and are full of a newfound joy. This experience taught you firsthand about God's healing power. Having experienced it yourselves, both you and your prayer partner become more enthusiastic than ever about establishing a prayer ministry in your church or community.

Giving and receiving prayer is the most effective way of developing prayer ministers. We are all "wounded healers," meaning we all need healing in our own lives. The most sensitive and effective prayer ministers are often the ones who have experienced the most healing in their own lives.

Praying for one another also builds confidence. The more you pray for one another, the easier and more natural it becomes. The more you pray and experience the faithfulness of God, the more confidence you have, not just in yourself as a prayer minister, but in God's healing power. You begin to realize that your role is to pray, and God's role is to heal. You grow confident that the Lord will indeed heal, redeem and transform.

When John Wimber became a Christian, he went to a church and kept waiting for them to "do the stuff." After the service, he approached a leader and said, "When are you going to do the stuff?" "What stuff?" the leader replied. "You know, 'raise the dead, heal the blind, lay hands on the sick — do the stuff in the Bible.'" "Oh, we don't do those things" replied the leader, "we just talk about it." This was when John began to realize that God was calling him into the healing ministry. He believed if the Bible said it, we should do it. This is the point. Let's not just read books, attend seminars and listen to tapes. Let's actually get busy "doing the stuff." The best educator is experience.

The following are practice suggestions for those using our training materials or following our articles in *The Healing Line*. Break into groups of three, with two praying for the third member. Take turns praying for each other until all three have received prayer.

INNER HEALING — Ask the Lord to show the prayer recipient a memory that the Lord would like to heal. After silence, ask the prayer recipient what comes to mind. Ask the Lord Jesus to come into this memory. I suggest a long period of silence. After a while, ask the prayer recipient what he feels or sees. Caution: Let the Holy Spirit do the healing.

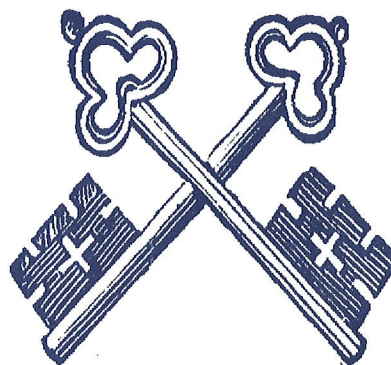
FORGIVENESS — Using the forgiveness prayers in Level I and previous newsletters, have the prayer recipient hold up to the Lord the things about a person he needs to forgive. It is best for him to verbally say these things. Have him release these to the Lord.

PRAYER FROM CONCEPTION TO

BIRTH — Find out from the prayer recipient anything that might need healing surrounding his or her conception to birth experience. Did he come at a good time in his parents' lives, was it a difficult pregnancy or birth, was he

a wanted child, are there generational sins or physical predispositions? Ask the Lord to come into any of these places and bring His healing power and peace. Make sure there are long periods of silence during these prayers to allow the Holy Spirit to heal.

RENOUNCEMENT OF OCCULT INVOLVEMENT — Using the Occult Sheet included in the Level I training, have the prayer recipient mark each item which applies to his previous experience. Have him renounce that involvement and ask the Lord's forgiveness. Pray for him to receive this forgiveness and be cut free from this occult involvement. ✝



Healing is a Bestseller

The term bestseller refers to titles that are not sold for direct use in a school or a parish but books sold primarily through bookstores — otherwise known as “the trade.” In religious trade publishing, a book that has sold 100,000 copies or more during its years in print is generally considered a bestseller. Ave Maria Press has been fortunate to publish 25 bestsellers. The all-time leader in that category is *Healing* by Francis MacNutt. First published in 1974, *Healing* has sold over 600,000 copies. This includes not only the Ave Maria Press Roman Catholic edition, but the ecumenical edition published by Strong Communications and mass market paperback editions published by Bantam and Image. Ave Maria Press will release a revised edition of the book in 1999 to celebrate its 25th anniversary.

To order *Healing* in either the Catholic or ecumenical format, see the CHM Bookstore, page 11.



FORGIVENESS, continued from page 4

As I lay there terrified and crying, begging for my mommy, Miss Tinkey leaned over me and said in the most hateful voice, “If you don’t stop crying, I won’t let you ever see your mother.” My mind must have snapped, because this only made me cry harder and hurt more. Then something awful happened to me. I felt a burning inside my chest and very slowly realized — I hated Miss Tinkey. That day, so long ago, hate was born in the heart of a five-year-old girl, and it took over 40 years or more before she let it go!

I’m sure that by this time Miss Tinkey has long since gone to meet her Creator. My mama always taught me to forgive someone if they were mean to you. But I had not done this until I heard Judith’s lecture and He gave me back this memory. Jesus, through Judith, showed me how to go back into my memory and begin to forgive Miss Tinkey.

Miss Tinkey was only the first of many Miss Tinkeys in my life. My cleft palate brought on a myriad of other problems: sinus problems, tonsillitis, a deviated septum, a mastoid infection in my right ear, loss of hearing, and later in my life an unrelated disease: Polio. But after so many years, God finally showed me how to release them all to him. He has taught me that He alone can judge. My hatred only makes me less than my Savior intended me to be. What was intended for my destruction, God has used for my new beginning and deep joy. Praise God, I am free indeed!

If Jesus, who was God, could endure watching those Roman soldiers making that crown of thorns, being careful not to stick their own fingers, then watch as they came toward Him ready to pound it into His head, if He can forgive that and all of what they did to Him, can’t I forgive Miss Tinkey and the others like her in my life?

Can’t you, this Christmas, give that one special gift to your “Miss Tinkey” and forgive her? Whether your Miss Tinkey let’s you love her or accepts your forgiveness is irrelevant. Forgiveness is a gift not only for the person, but for you and ultimately, for your Savior. Because in order to become conformed to the image of Christ, we must learn to forgive. We are called to love our enemies. We are to return evil with good and pray for those who despise us and persecute us. No matter what the offense, He forgives you — can you do less?

“As you forgive, so shall ye be forgiven.” And Jesus’ last words, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do”.

Don’t you think that for Jesus’ sake, we should lay our burdens at the foot of that manger, as a gift, this Christmas and be “Wise Men” and give Him the gift that only He can handle?

“I have come that you might have life,” Jesus said. That sweet baby in that manger has come again this Christmas to bring us JOY. Let “Miss Tinkey” go — then we can truly REJOICE. ✝

Roberta Simmons is married to Jimmy, and they live in Jacksonville. A gifted CHM prayer minister, she ministers to many people in her life because of her tender heart and joyful spirit. She adds an addendum to her story: “Judith, Merry Christmas. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for lighting the path for me. It’s taken almost 20 years for me to finally have the opportunity to say to you what has been in my heart for so long. Jesus truly makes a way where there seems to be no way. I praise God for you.”

Christmas Prayers for Our Nation

**by Joy Lamb,
Director of
Intercessory
Prayer Ministry**



Greetings for a beautiful and blessed Christmas. I hope the coming year will be one of peace and great joy for all of CHM's readers and supporters, and that the Lord will accomplish all that concerns you. May you freely receive the JOY OF THE LORD that He promises us each day as we draw closer to Him.

This is a very crucial time for our nation, and I ask you to join with the CHM intercessors and pray the Scriptures for our nation. God's Word is the best way to pray for anything, as His Word is pure and holy and righteous, and there is no room for evil in His Word.

If you have a copy of my book, *Sword of the Spirit*, pray the Scriptures for the nation found on page 145 and the deliverance prayer on page 43. If you do not have a copy of the book, please pray the prayers I print here. Feel free to reprint this, copy it, pass it along to your prayer groups, churches, brothers and sisters in Christ — anyone who has a heart for America and knows that prayer can change things!

Even if you live in another country, please pray for us, as we are all one family in Christ Jesus. We covet the prayers of our brothers and sisters around the world.

Please lift up the following:

♣ Every member of the House Judiciary Committee

♣ Every member of the House of Representatives and the Senate

♣ Every member of the legal teams involved in the presidential case

♣ The Attorney General

♣ All members of the media reporting on issues concerning the President of the United States

♣ The President and his family

Please join us as we pray for God's guidance, will and divine intervention in the lives of these people as they come to a decision. We must trust that no matter what the outcome, He is God, and He is in control.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION. Pray for the perfect unity and peace of the Holy Spirit to pervade the chambers where they meet. Bind the spirit of division, a spirit definitely not of the Almighty God. "A divided nation cannot stand."

Prayers:

"Thank you, Lord, that our nation and the world, having the promises of God, will cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord, in the Name of Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 7:1).

"Thank you, Lord, that this committee will obey God, rather than men, in the Name of Jesus Christ (Acts 5:29).

"Thank you, Lord, that there is nothing hidden in any of these people's lives or in this case that will not become evident, nor anything secret that will not become known, and come to the light, in the Name of Jesus Christ (Luke 8:17).

"Thank you, Lord, that this committee and our government will be filled with the knowledge of Your Will

in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, in the Name of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:9).

"Thank you, Lord, for purging the U.S. government and all governments from all evil, in the name of Jesus Christ.

"Thank you, Lord, that You will give all of these people an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them, that You will remove from them their hearts of stone and give them hearts of flesh, so that they will then follow Your decrees, and be careful to keep Your laws. Then they will be Your people and You will be their God, in the Name of Jesus Christ (Ezekiel 11:9).

"Thank you, Lord, that You will sanctify all of them/us in the Truth. Your Word is Truth, in the Name of Jesus Christ (John 17:17)."

AMEN.



Pray for the perfect unity and peace of the Holy Spirit to pervade the congressional chambers where they meet. Bind the spirit of division, a spirit definitely not of the Almighty God. "A divided nation cannot stand."

CHM recently created and printed a complete Bookstore List containing all publications, audio and video series produced and published by CHM. If you did not receive this list in the mail and would like to have a copy, call the bookstore at (904) 765-3332 Ext. 203, or write to The CHM Bookstore, Christian Healing Ministries, Inc., P.O. Box 9520, Jacksonville, FL 32208.

Healing at Day of Healing Prayer

Dear CHM:

Many tragic events in my life led me to the Day of Healing Prayer at CHM this past September. I am realizing more and more the need for generational healing in my family. I now see a wall that I didn't even know was surrounding me begin to crumble, brick by brick. So many miracles have come across my path. Not only me, but so many others were touched by what happened that special day. God has truly used your ministry to heal me. Thank you for letting our Lord use you in such a special way to bless the lives of thousands of people all over the world.

With love and prayers and a grateful heart,
Julie, Jacksonville, Florida

Dear Prayer Warriors:

Thank you so much for your prayers for Mary Grace, born at 25 weeks. She had dropped to one pound, four ounces, but she is now home and weighs over nine pounds. Usually babies with such a low weight have many complications and infirmities, but she is healthy and perfect, and none of the usual problems have materialized. She was named Mary Grace because her parents believed it would be due to God's grace if she lived. How grateful we are to the Body of Christ who take into their hearts those they don't even know and rush to stand in the gap for others. God has a plan for Mary Grace, and your prayers have helped it to become a reality. May God pour His blessings on all of you who loved and prayed for this dear baby.

Love in Jesus, Ann Lee
Jacksonville, Florida

I want to let you know that while I was at the Eucharist for the Healing of Generations earlier this month my husband withdrew his petition for divorce (after 43 years of marriage)! We still have a lot of work to do since we have lived apart for over a year. But now at least we have a chance to salvage our marriage. I want to thank all of you for your prayers, for making me feel so welcome and for inviting me to have supper with you. God bless you.
— Kathy, Akron, Ohio

Praise Reports

Healing of Breast Cancer

Praise the name of Jesus! Five years ago, you sent me the book *The Sword of the Spirit, The Word of God*, and you wrote the words inside, "And He will restore all the years the locusts took away." Amen! He has!

I had a long history of health and family problems, and I was extremely bitter. I felt I had been abandoned by everyone, even God. In 1995 I had a mastectomy, and the doctors gave me six weeks to six months to live. I had chemo, 39 radiation treatments, pneumonia, and through it all I used that book like a weapon. And the Holy Spirit showed me my sins — mostly unforgiveness. I was able to let the bitterness and hate go, like a throbbing thorn pulled out of my flesh.

The doctors kept telling me to make funeral arrangements, and I kept telling Jesus, "If You still need me to walk around and witness for You, then save me from this disease, and I'll magnify Your Name daily." And the Lord is true to His Word.

On April 6, 1998, I was three years past this deadly diagnosis. Then in May, my doctor found a "suspicious" growth. It was removed in simple surgery, and the surgeon said if it were cancer, it was a sign that it had spread through the entire body.

Feeling that old terror returning, I rushed home, grabbed *Sword of the Spirit*, and read: "Thank you, Lord, that every plant which the heavenly Father has not planted shall be rooted up, in the Name of Jesus Christ!" Amen!

My wonderful Christian surgeon who had also promised to pray for me, called saying, "Biopsy reports indicate NO CANCER ANYWHERE!" It had been "rooted up," through the power of the Merciful Physician! Praise and bless His Holy Name! He did restore my years, and the locusts are gone!

— Susie

We Want YOU for God's Army!

Want to become an Intercessor? God's Army can always use more prayer warriors! CHM intercessors receive a bi-monthly newsletter with prayer requests for which they are asked to pray faithfully for two months. Also, Joy Lamb sends them a copy of *The Sword of the Spirit — The Word of God*, so that they can more effectively pray Scriptural prayers for the prayer requests. The intercessors support Christian Healing Ministries through prayer covering.

If you would like to become a CHM intercessor, please write to CHM Intercessors, P.O. Box 9520, Jacksonville, FL 32208.



THE CHM BOOKSTORE

School of Healing Prayer: CHM highly recommends studying each level in sequence!!!

Level I

Order #	Level I Course Materials	Contents	Price
AVL1-SET	Level I - Complete Course Materials	12 Videos, 12 Audios, 1 Facilitator's & 1 Student's Mnl.	\$425.00
AL1	Level I - Audiotapes Only	12 Audiotapes	\$55.00
SML1	Level I - Student's Manual Only		\$10.00

Order #	Titles of Individual Videos for Level I	Speaker	Minutes	Price
VL1-1	Introduction to Healing	Francis MacNutt	60	\$29.95
VL1-2	Four Types of Healing	Francis MacNutt	40	\$29.95
VL1-3	Physical Healing	Francis MacNutt	60	\$29.95
VL1-4/5	Inner Healing and Forgiveness Prayers	Judith MacNutt/Norma Dearing	120	\$59.95
VL1-6/7	Salvation and Baptism in the Holy Spirit	Norma Dearing/Peter Dearing	60	\$29.95
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VL1-13/14	Intercessory Prayer/Developing Prayer Teams	Joy Lamb/Arlene Doro	60	\$29.95

Level II

Order #	Level II Course Materials	Contents	Price
AVL2-SET	Level II - Complete Course Materials	13 Videos, 13 Audiotapes, One Facilitator's Manual, One Student's Manual	\$465.00
AL2	Level II - Audiotapes Only	13 Audiotapes	\$60.00
SMLII	Level II - Student's Manual (Only Student's Manual is available now. Facilitator's Manual will be complete by 12/98.)		\$15.00

Order #	Titles of Individual Videos for Level II	Speaker	Minutes	Price
VL2-1	Summary of Level I	Norma Dearing	68	\$29.95
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VL2-8	Depression/Introduction to Mental Illness	Dr. Tom Wikstrom	55	\$29.95
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VL2-11	Healing of Marriage	Judith MacNutt	62	\$29.95
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VL2-13	Praise, Worship and Healing	Jenny Howard	61	\$29.95

Level III

Order #	Level III Course Materials	Contents	Price
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SMLIII	Level III - Student's Manual Only		\$17.00

Order #	Titles of Individual Audiotapes for Level III
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AL3-2	Addictions: Core Beliefs
AL3-3	Sexual Addictions
AL3-4	Treatment of Sexual Addictions
AL3-5	Healthy Sexuality I
AL3-6	Healthy Sexuality II
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AL3-9	Restoring the Masculine and the Feminine
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AL3-16	Inner Healing and Homosexuality/Testimony

Speaker
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Judith MacNutt
Dr. Mark Laaser
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Francis MacNutt
Francis MacNutt
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Level III is not yet available on video, so individual prices are not applicable. Audiotapes are only available as a set.



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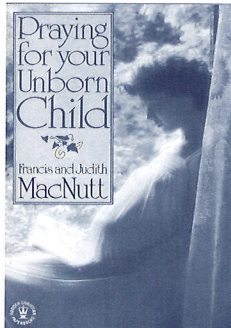
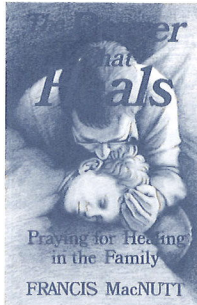
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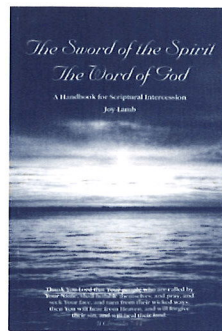
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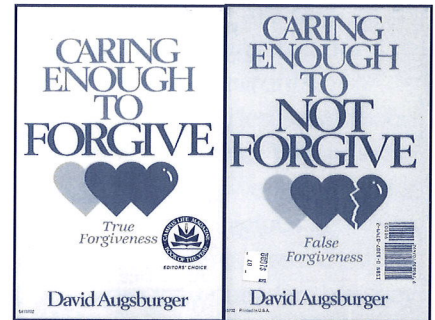
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Ministry Events and Hours

Prayer Ministry by appointment:

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

Tuesday Evening Prayer Ministry:

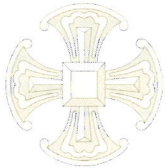
6:00 pm-8:00 pm
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Eucharist for the Healing of Generations:

Second Tuesday of every month
6:00 pm



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