

HEALING LINE

The Fragrance of the Holy Spirit

Jesus Broke the Curse
Carry Freedom
Pass It On
Ministry Frontlines
and more!

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HEALING LINE

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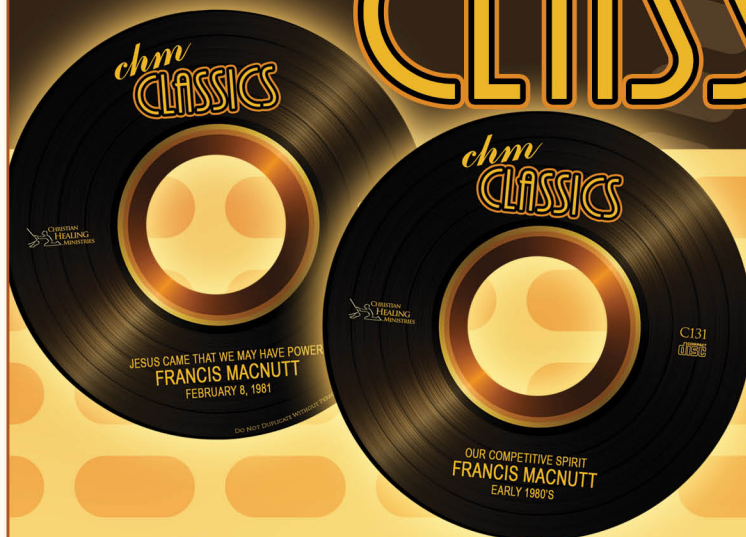
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The Fragrance of the Holy Spirit

by Francis MacNutt

As many of you already know, one of our longtime colleagues in the healing ministry, Barbara Shlemon Ryan, passed on to the next life on Good Friday. We were with her a short time before in San Diego at the meeting of the Association of Christian Therapists, an organization she was instrumental in founding in 1974. Barbara was one of the first people to pray for healing in the Catholic Church in the early 1960's and she was especially gifted in praying for inner healing. I met Barbara and Sister Jeanne Hill, O.P. in 1969, at a retreat I led in Racine, Wisconsin. As soon as we met I realized they were both very gifted speakers and I added them to the team; after that they became members of many teams that we took around to many countries. Some historians date the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Latin America to the teams we put together beginning in 1970, at a time when I lived at Merton House in St. Louis, MO. Among the many places we spoke were Mexico, Colombia, and Peru.

Shortly before her death – largely incurred by the resurgence of MRSA, which had twice incapacitated her and nearly killed her last year – Barbara came to CHM to record her recollections of how we brought Charismatic Renewal to Latin America. While she was with us, we experienced a fascinating phenomenon which I want to pass on to you.

After our meetings, both Barbara and one of our staff members, Lauren Corley, smelled a fragrance in our office that seemed like lavender and it lingered for quite a while. This kind of aromatic event seems to happen from time to time. My first experience with an unusual floral scent was back in the late 1960s when, during a School of Pastoral Care in Whitinsville, Mass., the participants reported the scent of roses permeating the chapel,

although there were no flowers there. What's the meaning behind it? What's the point to it all?

As I see it, there is no profound meaning we need to look for, except that experiences like this are meant to encourage us on our journey. People report all kinds of different, unusual manifestations that are not as important as powerful "signs and wonders;" their simple purpose is to encourage us to keep on going in the ministry – which is hard work and sometimes discouraging. We often hear about other fascinating phenomena—one of the more common is seeing golden flakes drifting down from the rafters; at other times glittering metallic flakes appear on the clothing of preachers.

In seeing all of these fascinating happenings I think our attitude should not be to emphasize them, but, rather, to simply notice them and thank God that he has seen fit to bless us with his encouragement. It certainly doesn't prove that the people to whom it happens are holy. Our best response is simply to be grateful and not to become puffed up with self-importance. I remember once when Judith and I were at a John Wimber conference at Steubenville University and gold colored flakes were found sprinkled on the ground. As for special fragrances, the Christian tradition has included the "odor of sanctity;" people have noticed these remarkable occurrences for centuries but have not devoted much study to them.

And so, if you find gold-dust on your jacket after you have given your testimony, be glad and thank God, but don't get carried away by it all. Just rejoice that Jesus is showing how much he loves you! ✠

Francis MacNutt is a
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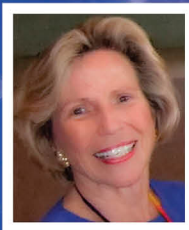
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JESUS BROKE THE CURSE

by J. Lee Grady

One woman's dramatic encounter with Christ shows us that He came to deliver women from spiritual oppression.

We do not know her name. Usually we refer to her as "the woman with the issue of blood." But those words from the King James Bible seem archaic today and make her seem faceless and distant. She was a real person, and her pain was intense.

I sometimes imagine that this fragile shell of a woman was called "Mara"—the Hebrew word for bitter. Chronic sickness had disfigured her life. Yet Christ got so close to her pain that she dared to touch Him, and her healing has provided inspiration for countless sermons ever since.

This anguished woman had been brushed aside by rabbis, abused by doctors and shunned by men on the street. Why then would she suddenly feel the confidence to approach the rabbi named Jesus?

You know the story. Her appearance in the Gospel of Mark is brief, but her encounter with Jesus, described in Mark 5:25-34, is one of the most poignant in the New Testament. I fear we miss the impact of this woman's story because

we don't realize what she endured or what her healing truly signifies.

The Bible tells us that she had been bleeding for 12 years. We don't know the nature of her illness, but it is probable she had some type of female problem. She undoubtedly experienced chronic fatigue, lack of energy and crippling grief.

We don't know the cause of her illness, either. But it is likely she could not bear children because of it, and her childlessness would have brought even more of a stigma in a primitive society than the illness itself.

Perhaps she had suffered a painful miscarriage at one point. Perhaps her husband divorced her because she could not bear children. The Bible doesn't tell us the details.

However, we do know that she "endured much at the hands of many physicians" and that she "spent all that she had" on doctors (Mark 5:26, NASB)—meaning that she was destitute and may have been forced to beg. The gospel also says that the doctor's efforts made her physical condition worse, not better.

In the time of Jesus, medical care for women in Mara's condition was crude if not barbaric. All the doctors in Jerusalem were men, of course. And their

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"treatments" were nothing more than experiments based on superstition and flawed science.

Writings of the time prescribed various cures for ailments—including one that called for ingesting dust mixed with human waste. Mara may have been forced to eat such toxic substances to find a cure. For her, doctor visits were torture.

[Jesus] intentionally broke every religious rule about women because part of His mission on Earth was the dismantling of an ancient curse.

Yet the Gospel account tells us that when she heard that Jesus was passing near her neighborhood, she mustered up the courage to press through the crowd to reach Him. Did she do this simply because she was desperate? I believe there is much more to this story. But we must read between the lines.

This anguished woman had been brushed aside by rabbis, abused by doctors and shunned by men on the street. Why then would she suddenly feel the confidence to approach the rabbi named Jesus?

I wonder if Mara had talked to others about Him. Surely she had heard the reports of His healing power. Perhaps she had even met Mary of Bethany in the marketplace or had talked to Mary Magdalene in an alley.

What set this Teacher apart from all the religious leaders in Israel? And why would Mara have dared to approach Him when she knew that all other rabbis would have rebuked her—and perhaps punished her publicly—for touching a holy man?

1. She knew Jesus was approachable.

Rabbis in Israel were generally aloof and inaccessible—and they kept their distance from women. Ancient Jewish traditions instructed men to walk on the other side of the street when they saw a woman approaching. Superstition said that it was bad luck for a woman who was menstruating to pass between two men.

The rabbis viewed women as the source of all evil. They taught that because Eve was deceived in the Garden of Eden, all females were guilty of ruining Creation. (Ironically, they did not pass Adam's guilt on to all males.) Women were considered deceitful, lazy, fickle and ignorant—and prone to immorality and witchcraft.

Women in ancient Israel were required to stay veiled and silent. Under the best of circumstances they were not to be seen associating with a rabbi. A menstruating woman—who was

considered ceremonially unclean—was expected to stay as far away as possible from a man of God.

Yet Mara touched Jesus. I wonder if she had heard from Mary of Bethany that this rabbi encouraged women to sit at His feet and learn from the Scriptures—when other rabbis in Israel did not allow women to participate in any form of religious instruction. Perhaps Mara met the Samaritan woman, who carried on a lively theological discussion with Jesus at Jacob's well.

Or maybe she talked with the old woman whose back was healed by Jesus in the Temple (see Luke 13:10-17). Jesus broke every religious rule of His day when he called that disfigured saint from the women's section in the back of the sanctuary and allowed her to come to the front—where she declared her praises to God.

Jesus created a scandal whenever He interacted with women. Why? He intentionally broke every religious rule about women because part of His mission on Earth was the dismantling of an ancient curse.

2. She knew that Jesus cared for her.

Other rabbis in Israel would have shown no compassion for a woman in Mara's condition. Men often recited this prayer: "Lord, I thank You that I am not a Gentile. I thank You that I am not a woman. I thank You that I am not a slave."

But Jesus didn't say that self-righteous prayer. He didn't view women with disdain. In fact, He had women followers (which was taboo in Israel), and He developed close friendships with some of those women. He even allowed them to see Him crying.

When a certain immoral woman poured expensive perfume on Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair, Jesus did not chastise her like other rabbis would have done (see Luke 7:36-50). He spoke to her tenderly and declared that her sins were forgiven. When a nameless woman was accused of adultery by a group of sanctimonious men (see John 8:1-11), Jesus rushed to her defense and rebuked her accusers.

Mara knew that Jesus was different!

3. She knew Jesus wasn't afraid of her condition.

Mara risked her life when she stepped into the dusty street and pressed toward Jesus' entourage. People who knew her were probably dumbstruck by her forwardness. Some of the men escorting Jesus probably shouted at her, "Go away, sick woman!"

But Mara knew that her bleeding was not repulsive to Jesus. Something deep inside told her that this rabbi wasn't concerned about contagion. She said to herself, "If I just touch His garments,



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I have longed and prayed for something like this...the Lord has touched me...healed me...

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This conference was the most powerful manifestation of the power of the Holy Spirit...

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I will get well" (Mark 5:28). Staying low to the ground, unseen by Jesus' disciples, she reached through dozens of scurrying feet and grabbed the hem of Jesus' robe.

Her miracle came instantly. Her throbbing pain subsided. The hemorrhaging stopped, and the soreness that had crippled her body for more than a decade vanished. Perhaps she began to sob, but fear undoubtedly gripped her when she realized that Jesus had stopped to ask who had touched Him.

Would He rebuke her? Would He give her a stern lecture about Moses' laws of hygiene?

Would He banish her to the edge of town and tell her never to come near Him again? That would have been the reaction of any other rabbi in Jerusalem. But that is not what Jesus did.

His disciples were amazed by His question. Why would Jesus ask, "Who touched Me?" when everyone was seeking His attention? But Jesus knew what had happened to Mara. When she reluctantly made eye contact with Him, all the compassion in the universe stared back at her.

As she knelt at His feet, trembling yet overwhelmed that her pain was gone, she heard Him speak. His tone was not angry. "Daughter," He said, breaking yet another religious rule that forbade rabbis to address women in an endearing manner. "Your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction" (v. 34).

Not only was Mara healed but also Jesus affirmed His love for her in front of everyone else. The doctors who had taken her money may have witnessed the scene. The rabbis who smugly avoided her may have been there to hear Jesus encourage her. The men who had spat on her and called her names probably hung their heads in shame.

Rabbi Jesus had spoken. He had changed all the rules.

THE POWER OF REDEMPTION

Mara's healing is significant because it was a prophetic sign of what Jesus came to do for all women. We miss the full meaning when we view the story as a mere display of the Messiah's power over sickness.

Mara's chronic pain represents the state of all women under the curse of sin. No doubt she was familiar with the story of mankind's rebellion in the Garden of Eden. She had heard the local rabbi read the story from the scrolls of Moses.

After Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree, God described to Eve how the curse of sin would affect her. He said: "I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth, in pain you will

bring forth children; yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you" (Gen. 3:16).

Mara certainly knew the pain of Genesis 3:16. She probably winced when she heard those words as she listened from the back of the synagogue, where all women were sequestered in Jesus' day. Mara had lived that verse. It described her existence.

Genesis 3:16 is a clear, prophetic description of how women would suffer in a fallen world without a Savior. The pain it describes is not limited to that of childbirth. It embodies all forms of feminine pain: miscarriage, infertility, rape, abuse, incest, sexual slavery, domestic violence, economic prejudice and even religious chauvinism.

**"Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."
— Mark 5:34**

Genesis 3:16 is not God's perfect plan for women. On the contrary, it is the reason women in Islamic countries are stoned in broad daylight by their own husbands. It is the reason the genitals of African girls are brutally mutilated. It is the reason Latino women suffer under the power of machismo. It is the reason women around the world still do not have access to education, health care or civil freedom.

Yet there is good news. When Jesus the Messiah came to Earth, He did not come to set only men free. He came to touch all the Maras of the world. He liberated women from the power of sin's curse. He defended them, bound up their wounds, stopped their internal bleeding, removed their chronic pain and restored their lost dignity.

Jesus was not afraid to identify with women, and He did not refuse when God laid the essence of that feminine pain on Him at Calvary. John 3:16 says He came because God "so loved the world." I like to remind women that John 3:16 has nullified Genesis 3:16!

Mara experienced this redemption 2,000 years ago. I pray that in our lifetime millions of women around the world will come to understand that the rabbi named Jesus is like no other. ✞

J. Lee Grady is a
contributing editor
and former editor
of Charisma.



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CARRY FREEDOM

by Courtenay Bowser

About a year ago, I was in prayer with a group of female missionaries and I saw a picture that has been emblazoned on my heart. It was a group of women coming up over the crest of a hill. There was smoke behind them and it looked as though an intense battle had taken place. They were pressing forward up the hill, keeping in perfect unity with one another. They looked disheveled, battered and dirty. They were wearing white dresses, but they were tattered and torn from the battle. The women were carrying heavy chains over their heads. I could feel their sense of victory. Immediately, the Holy Spirit said to me, “The chains are not their own. They are the chains of those they delivered on the battlefield – THE DELIVERED HAVE BECOME THE DELIVERERS.” I heard that last line over and over again.

As I pondered this vision, many things struck me as important, especially considering the state of young women in our world and the role of the church in reaching them. First, I realized the women I saw each had her own story. At one point, they had been the ones in chains and had experienced Christ’s deliverance.

Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:34-36, NIV). Jesus was predicting what was yet to come. He was going to set us all free through His death and resurrection. In the moment that He said, “It is finished,” the slaves became God’s children! Jesus did not just deliver us; He delivered us and changed our entire status. He made us sons and daughters. As believers, once we have a revelation of this freedom that Christ purchased with His life, we understand that NOTHING can keep us bound.

Every one of us has walked our own journey – “life” has happened to us. There have been ups and downs, abuses and tragedies, successes and failures, and these have often left us bound in so many different ways. As believers, it is essential that we begin to surrender these areas to Christ

and drop our ropes and chains. Not denying our story, but transforming it into a weapon. “They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death” (Revelation 12:11, NIV).

THE WOMEN HAD THEIR OWN STORY.

Another thing that struck me about the women in my vision was that they were not afraid to show their scars. My friend, Pastor Leisa Nelson says, “Your scars qualify you.” She says others need to see they bear the same scar that you do. They also need to know how you found healing.

The world does not need an army of women wearing masks, pretending to be something they are not. Paul writes, “Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous

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man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom. 5:7-8, NIV) Jesus was not afraid of our failure, our sin, or our weakness. In fact, He ran right towards it and gave His very life for it.

He is not shocked by our inadequacies. We tell ourselves we must be prettier, smarter, more successful, more outgoing, have more friends, fail less, achieve more, become a better mom, be perfect! Young women all over the world are tormented by such lies. When we are unable to attain these things, a sense of utter failure sets in and we want to hide our weakness.

If Satan can keep us hiding our fears, failures, and inadequacies, we will stay treading water in one place, never moving forward. The young women around us need to see the reality of our struggles and trials. They know all too well their own failures, and if, when looking at the church, they only see the perfect happy face, what do they have to hope for? We must give them hope in the midst of the pain!

When Peter wrote, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:15, NIV); it was not because the church was acting like everything was fine when it was not. The church was in massive trial and turmoil. Earlier in the same book he encourages them, “In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed” (1 Peter 1:6-7, NIV). Things were incredibly difficult, but they were hoping in the Lord.

When the young women around us see our trials, our struggles, or our challenges and we are willing to show our scars, it gives them hope! It says, “I’ve been where you are and I can help. Let me tell you my story. Let me share my struggles even now. Let me show you the Healer.”

THE WOMEN SHOWED THEIR SCARS.

The third point that struck me about the army of women is they were not afraid to get into the battle for others. I saw them coming up off the battlefield, but at some point, they had to face their original fear of even going into the battle. Every one of us reaches a point in our walk with Christ where we cannot sit idly by and just watch any longer. Something within us wants to act – this is a crucial moment. This is a moment where vision is born, where the heart of God beats hard in our chest provoking us to reach out to those He loves.

This is the same moment where every fear comes washing in, doubt rears its head, and each past failure begins to scream our name once again. “Unworthy, inadequate, incapable,” and on and on the voices go. They will say anything to keep us from believing and acting – believing that “God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong,” (what a great prerequisite, I think I qualify!) and acting on the idea that we “are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world”(1 Corinthians 1:27, 1 John 4:4, NIV).

I believe the church is full of women, myself included in recent years, who are afraid. We are afraid of failing again. We are afraid of the unknown. We are afraid of making fools of ourselves. Unfortunately, it simply reveals how much we have yet to learn of His unfailing love. Our success is not based on our capability. It is based on Him.

Agape love is a mind-boggling thing. I believe humans are incapable of it outside of the Spirit of Christ. That’s why Jesus had to create a way for His spirit to live within us. Through the mystery of the gospel, “Christ in you, the hope of glory” a miracle of love takes place (Colossians 1:27, NIV). It is only by this miracle that we can love enough to overcome fear. His perfect love can push back the fear in our own hearts, if we let it. Then, through us, that love can do the same for women everywhere.

Who does your heart break for? What issue, place, or situation evokes a response from your heart (not just your mind) every time you hear about it? Take action! I realize we associate “battles” most easily with men, but the world is full of young women being held captive by the forces of this world. The women of the church must be willing to help them! Get out on the battlefield and start fighting to set the captives free.

THE WOMEN WERE NOT AFRAID TO GO TO BATTLE.



connecting

the Dots with the Past

a testimony by Margaret Neill

In July of this year, I participated in a healing prayer session at CHM to deal with a pressing need to pray for my family tree. Throughout my life I was aware of a very rich and loving tradition in our family, yet at the same time, I also sensed of some intense wounding in my parents' generation. At first I thought it was primarily from one side of my family—the family line where I had felt the most hurt—but as I prepared for the session, I realized that both sides of my family had left me an unexpected inheritance. I was prepared to open myself during the prayer session for God to work on all areas in need of healing. After the session, I felt we had done a lot of work and that Jesus had walked right into the wounding through the centuries. However, as I went back to the hotel and reflected on the experience during the next two days, I felt there was more to be done—something was unfinished.

I was not sure what was missing, but as the training week unfolded the “unfinished” surfaced with great power. For many years, since the coming of the Holy Spirit into my life, I have had unusual experiences pointing to a relationship with four groups of ancient people—Australian Aborigines, Irish pre-Celtic peoples, Native American peoples, particularly in the American Southwest, and the Bushmen of Africa. Of particular is that I am not aware of any biological connection with any of these people, aside from that shared by all humans. When we began the work

on the healing of the family tree—about Wednesday—I was fine and there was no indication anything was about to erupt. The class started as usual with the prayer time, and as the teaching started, and I began to feel uncomfortable—uneasy, fidgeting and near tears.

I left the teaching hall and went into the chapel to regain some composure. The next thing I knew I was not only crying but trying very hard not to wail and say things about not being able to take it any more. I was in crisis! Two CHM staff members came to me, and as the crying slowed down, they asked if I could return to the class and listen to the teaching. They suggested that might help.

During the rest of the teaching, my mind was filled with images of ancient peoples, and I attempted to understand their relationship to each other and also to me. I realized they were all First Peoples and had been oppressed by invaders of their territory. Many were enslaved and some were deprived of their cultures or even killed.

I began to remember that I had recently been experiencing a very deep well of anger that would erupt at unexpected times, and with great intensity, whenever I

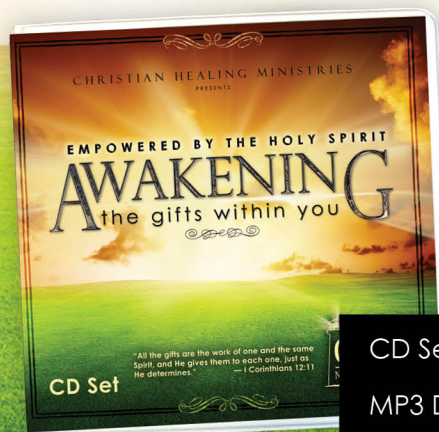
listened to the news or sensed that INJUSTICE was being done to a person, group or country. After the teaching, I went to sit with my friends and told them about the intensity of my reaction to the First Peoples and their experience of injustice. I was very upset. As they tried to calm me down, another classmate came and listened in and said to all of us, "We need to pray for Margaret, right now!" And so they did. At some point he said, "We need someone here with more power. Then came a young woman who bore my daughter's name, Glynnis. As she heard my dilemma she immediately recognized all the people as First People and said they had all suffered oppression and injustice and that I was connecting to them in some way. She began to pray with us and then asked if I would put all the things about my family and/or these people into a bowl made with my hand. I don't remember all that came up but the list included both positive and negative things. When the prayer was finished, I was relieved and released,

but also very tired. I don't remember much about the rest of the day but I know that much healing took place, and I am no longer afraid of the connection I have been given with these First Peoples. The healing is not complete but I am now sure of the road on which I am being led to travel. I thank God and the Prayer Ministers at CHM and my classmates in Level II School of Healing Prayer for this healing experience. ➤

Margaret Neill attended the Level II School of Healing Prayer® July 12-16, 2010. Prior to this, she attended a personal prayer time that was connected to her experience during the School. We asked her if she would give an account of that experience.

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Little Dog, Wyatt



by Francis MacNutt

Our daughter Rachel has brought a little dog, Wyatt (as in “Earp”) into our lives. She rescued Wyatt out in Oklahoma last summer where she found him hanging around a group of construction workers who fed him scraps of food. Wyatt is a terrier who looks like Eddie on the TV series *Frazier*. Anyway Wyatt immediately formed an attachment to Rachel, who truly rescued him, because the other dogs who were in the animal rescue center all died of extreme heat soon after on one torrid summer day.

From a spiritual point of view, Wyatt has something to teach most of us: Wyatt realizes he needs to receive love in order to survive. Christians recognize that they need to love others and this is Jesus’ great commandment. But often because we try not to be selfish we try not to be dependent and needy. We try to be giving but sometimes we’re not so good at being willing to receive. In fact, just yesterday I was reading a medical book that said that some patients are not very good at being patients and resist receiving the medical help they need. The book also says that as people grow older (like myself) they need to change their behaviors so as to make it easier for people to help them. Like so many things in life, it’s something which is age-related. When I was younger I had to learn to be patient with older people (as when they would spend an inordinate amount of time at the check-out line in the grocery store searching for their check book. That used to bother me a lot!)

But now I’m the one who may be holding people up in line. Fortunately Judith and all our wonderful friends are very understanding and make generous allowances, but at the same time I am learning that Christian love means that I need to learn how I

can make it easy for people to help me without embarrassment. I have to get over my reluctance to go to the head of the line at the airport or to ask for a wheelchair. I realize now that I need to make my needs known rather than fearing that I am becoming a burden. I now try to make it easy for people to help me – to love me.

And Wyatt can provide a lesson in how to ask for love. He jumps in my lap and relishes having his head patted. If we put him down on the ground he doesn’t object but he makes it very clear that he has a very real need to be loved, which is second perhaps only to his need for food. So many people that we meet, even though they have the same need deep down inside, have been so badly beaten down that they have learned to ward off rejection by putting on a hard surface to keep people at a distance.

All of us need to learn what is the right balance between being reserved and expressing affection. We also realize that St. John was proud of the fact that Jesus’ love for him was special (John 13:23) and that John was the one who was close enough to lean back on Jesus’ breast at the Last Supper (13:23-25). As we pray for inner healing we have learned by experience that the most important healing of all is to realize at the deepest level possible that God the Father and Jesus, love us with a very real affection. ✠



PASS IT ON

by Linda Strickland

EVEN WHEN I AM OLD AND GRAY, DO NOT FORSAKE ME, MY GOD, TILL I DECLARE YOUR POWER TO THE NEXT GENERATION, YOUR MIGHTY ACTS TO ALL WHO ARE TO COME. PSALM 71:18

Christian Healing Ministries recently had the opportunity to teach and minister to 250 students on the campus of Florida State University. What a joy it was to look at a room full of vital, energetic people; young people who were hungry for Jesus!

When Christian Healing Ministries receives an invitation to speak and minister at an event, we always seek the Lord's wisdom about our calendar through prayer. While considering the invitation, the Holy Spirit usually leads us to ask the question: What fruit will it bear? The reason this question is so important is because we feel that we are called to make the greatest impact possible in the area of healing. For us, this particular opportunity to impact 250 college students was a no-brainer!

After praying with those precious young people that night, and realizing that many of them did not have godly parents or mentors in their life, my head was flooded with thoughts of ways to connect them with people who would disciple them in their faith and gifts. Unfortunately, there seem to be fewer people willing to do this.

There are so many great people who have lived amazing lives for Jesus, but now that their hair is getting gray and their bodies are not as strong as they used to be, they have decided to coast. I once overheard a conversation where someone was asking a mature member of a church to do something, and their response was, "I've done that for years. It's someone else's turn now." When asked if they would mentor someone to do it, the response was a clear and firm, "No, I've paid my dues and done my time!"

The problem with this kind of response is their unwillingness to pass along the rich wisdom they have garnered over a lifetime of ministry goes completely against

not only what Jesus said, but what he did. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry he hand-picked 12 men and said to them, "Come and Follow me" (beginning in Matthew 4). These men became his disciples and Jesus loved and mentored them for 3 years. At the end of Jesus' ministry on earth, he gave his disciples The Great Commission (Matthew 28), where he commanded them to go and do what he did, making disciples themselves. In other words, "Pass it on!"

Paul was another great example of mentoring, captured in scripture through his relationships with Timothy and Titus. Not only did Paul mentor these men, but he also taught them how to keep 'passing it on.' In the book of Titus (chapter 2) Paul writes a wonderful letter to Titus addressing several things, including who should be teaching whom. He encourages Titus, as the leader of the church, to teach the older men and women, and likewise the older men and women are commissioned to pass it on to the younger men and women.

Although I believe that this lesson is just as relevant today as it was then, it seems to be a greater challenge in this day and age. Mainly, I believe the challenge is one of time. Today, our oatmeal is ready to eat in 60 seconds, our pictures can be developed in 60 minutes, and our houses can be built in 60 days. We are a culture that is used to getting what we want instantly. We aren't accustomed to working patiently, or waiting on anything – even a hamburger. If you have ever been involved with being mentored or mentoring someone else, you know that it is well worth the effort and time.

One of my favorite biblical heroes is Daniel. While we don't know who mentored Daniel, it is evident by his

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Daniel was a teenager living in Jerusalem when he, along with some of his friends, were captured and taken to live in Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar decided to take the best and brightest of these young men, and use them to advance his kingdom. The king knew that in order to make these young Hebrew men obedient and loyal he would have to change them. Although the king was a pagan, he understood mentoring. Through a 3 year process he tried to change their way of thinking, eating and worshipping.

At one time, 3 of Daniel's friends refused to worship a statue of the king, so the king had them thrown into a fiery furnace, but God protected them and no harm came to them. Another time, because he continued to pray to God when he was told not to, Daniel was thrown into a lion's den, but God shut the lion's mouths and preserved Daniel.

What was the secret to Daniel's (and his friends) success? I believe they had been mentored - and mentored well! These young Hebrew sons of God knew who they were because they knew whose they were. Knowing who they were made them live confidently and courageously. Daniel and his friends learned these valuable lessons from someone!

There are many stories in the bible that leave me hungry for more details, and this is one of them.

At Christian Healing Ministries, I have 2 extraordinary mentors, Francis and Judith MacNutt. Over the 5+ years I have worked with them, I have gleaned incredible wisdom and have been empowered beyond my imagination. One of the most amazing things about the way that they mentor is that, like Jesus, they don't ever feel threatened by the ones they are guiding, and are always more than willing to share their wisdom and experience.

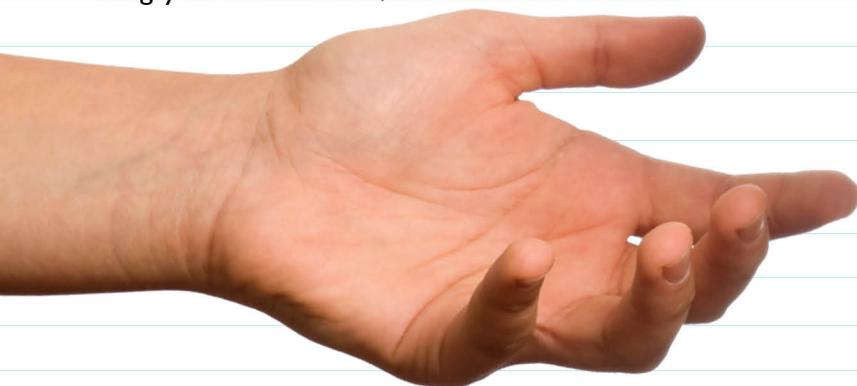
“I’m no longer calling you servants because servants don’t understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I’ve named you friends because I’ve let you in on everything I’ve heard from the Father.” (John 15:15b)

Once, while on a trip with Judith where we both were speaking, I was asked by someone what it was like to be in Judith's "shadow." This question completely took me off guard as I immediately responded that I was not in her "shadow", I was in her "light!" Judith has never made me feel less than, as she is constantly encouraging me and pushing me forward (sometimes to my discomfort).

On many occasions I have heard Francis humbly say that he wants to be known as a great “talent scout”, surrounding himself with people who are more gifted than he is. Francis and Judith are both constantly raising up and empowering leaders and teachers. To me, they are perfect modern-day example of “passing it on.”

We are never too old to be mentored and never too young to be a mentor. We all need each other. This is all part of God's original and perfect plan for us, and the central component to one of His greatest gifts to us: community.

As someone once said, we should all be able to look ahead of ourselves and see shepherds, and look behind us and see sheep. 🐑



*Linda Strickland is the Director
of Ministry and Assistant to
Judith MacNutt.*



Lessons from the Ministry Frontlines

Things Learned Through Prayer



Changed from the Very Beginning

by Leslie Royalty

Relatively early in their ministry, the Lord revealed to Francis and Judith that a person's present struggles often go all the way back to the time in utero. As they began praying for healing in this area, they were amazed by the results. Their book *Praying for Your Unborn Child*, describes babies' incredible sensitivity to everything in the uterine environment and the power of prayer to heal anything negative that occurred at that time. Throughout the years science too has confirmed that experiences in the womb leave lasting effects that remain throughout adulthood. However, our God who is not limited by time can go back into that stage of life and bring deep healing and freedom. Often while in a posture of prayer, people report sensations, feel emotions, or recall situations they experienced in the womb which they had no previous way of knowing. Later, however, such early issues that surface during prayer are often confirmed with incredible accuracy.

One man who recently attended our three day Intensive Prayer Ministry, experienced life-changing healing going back to his time in the womb. As you read his story, we hope God encourages you to pray for others in this area in addition to receiving prayer yourself!

I knew this was going to be something really special the moment we began the very first worship song on day one. The tears immediately began to flow, and when the second song started, I felt the presence of Jesus right in front of me! He was right there, arms outstretched, and I heard him say in a quiet voice, "I will heal you." I nearly broke down, feeling so remorseful about the things in my life that have been displeasing to God. As I prayed quietly and a bit desperately for forgiveness, I actually could see what I knew to be the paper thin walls of my own strength visibly crumbling before Jesus in front of me. I prayed – more like I begged the Lord – to help me surrender more of myself to Him and rest in the stronghold of His great strength. Three songs later, the worship leader, Leslie Royalty, said out loud, "I can see Jesus standing in front of each of you, arms outstretched." What

confirmation!!! Thank you, Jesus!

I specifically asked my prayer ministers to do the conception-to-birth prayer because I knew that my mother was only 3 weeks pregnant with me when her father suddenly died from a massive heart attack. This must have caused her tremendous anxiety during her pregnancy, and I knew also that her mother suffered a nervous breakdown after losing her husband at this time. In addition, I knew that I had an unknown condition at birth that spiked my Bilirubin blood count to 28 (30 would mean brain damage), compelling the doctors to change out my entire blood supply. I felt the Holy Spirit was nudging me to address the trauma issues of my life in the womb. What was to come stunned me.

The prayer for conception and months 1 and 2 were uneventful. In month 3, however, all I could think about was the fact that I was eventually born with an inverted breastbone, a condition whereby the center of my chest is slightly inverted. This caused a great deal of self-consciousness when I was young, as the other boys would tease me when I was forced to go shirtless while swimming or playing "shirts v. skins" type games during gym class. I mentioned this to my prayer ministers, who helped me pray through this issue, and I realized I blamed God for this...for what to me seemed an ugly birth defect, though in reality it's not very pronounced. Moreover, the prayer ministers soon wound up praying for deliverance from what they discerned to be the spirit of "Self-Consciousness," which left quietly after I asked God to forgive me for blaming him.

In the month 4 prayers, I felt sharply conflicted, sensing the joy my mother had at knowing she was pregnant with me, but having also a much stronger sense of deep, inexplicable grief. This grief felt bone crushing, and gradually my right arm began shaking, and then kind of flapping around out of my control. Truly! I probably could have forced the arm to stop moving if I tried hard enough, but I was totally

cont. on page 22

2011

focusing on
july/aug/sept

July

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
					1	2
3	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY Office closed	5 Open Prayer Ministry CHM campus: 1:30 pm Generational Eucharist CHM campus: 6:00 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	20	21	22	23
24	25 Day of Healing Prayer on CHM campus	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	1	2 Open Prayer Ministry CHM campus: 1:30 pm Generational Eucharist CHM campus: 6:00 pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	31			

September

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day Office closed	6 Open Prayer Ministry CHM campus: 1:30 pm Generational Eucharist CHM campus: 6:00 pm	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	21	22	23	24
25	26 Day of Healing Prayer on CHM campus	27 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	28	29	30	

CHM Schools, Conferences & Retreats

Schools of Healing Prayer®

CHM Campus, Jacksonville, Florida

Speakers: Francis MacNutt, Judith MacNutt, and team

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org or call 904-765-3332

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August 8-12 Level III

November 7-11 Level IV

December 5-9 Level I

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Crowne Plaza Jacksonville Airport, Jacksonville, Florida

Speakers: CHM team

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org or call 904-765-3332

August 25-27

CHM Internship Program

To apply, call 904-765-3332 ext. 216

August 23-27

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Speakers: Judith MacNutt and team

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org or call 904-765-3332

September 15-17 *see page 4 for our full ad

CHM in the Rockies

Denver, Colorado

Speakers: Judith MacNutt and team

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org or call 904-765-3332

October 6-8 *see page 7 for our full ad

Other Conferences

September 23-25 ~ Open Door Presbyterian Church Fall Conference [Herndon, VA]

Speaker: Judith MacNutt

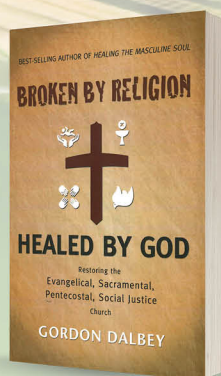
Registration information to come

October 21-23 ~ Healing Conference [Ridgefield, CT]

Speaker: Judith MacNutt and Linda Strickland

Registration: visit www.prayandsee.org

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Broken by Religion, Healed by God

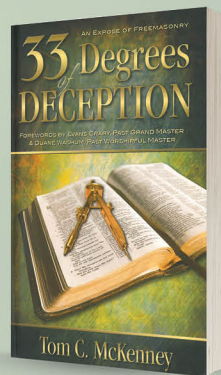
by Gordon Dalbey

Item #B1263 \$14.99

In the Bible, Jesus reveals Himself in four major ways, each of which has been claimed by a larger Christian faction: the born-again experience, by Evangelicals; eucharist/communion, by Sacramentalists; the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Pentecostals; and social justice ministry, by Oldline Reformers. Instead of celebrating each other's vision to know Jesus more fully, each of the four have discounted the others and thereby, crippled the Church.

The same sectarian, shame-based religion that fueled the 9/11 terrorists infects the Body of Christ today. Like towers of human construction, a Church divided will fall, and with it the very world Jesus died to save.

This book will stir you to a faith both passionate about its truth and compassionate in its grace. You'll discover here freedom from universal tolerance on the one hand and narrow condemnation on the other. But to walk it out, you'll need to give Jesus your shame. God has a plan—are you ready?



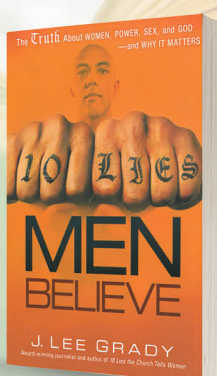
33 Degrees of Deception

by Tom C. McKenney

Item #B1280 \$16.99

The shadow of death hovers over many of the rites and rituals of Freemasonry. Author Tom McKenney exposes the deadly secrets of this fraternity, which has more than three million members around the world. In a careful and objective manner, he delves into the occult roots of this secret society.

33 Degrees of Deception is a very comprehensive book that tells the personal story of one completely dedicated Mason—Jim Shaw. You will want to know why Jim Shaw left Masonry—and the price he paid for leaving. This book sheds light on the darkness of Freemasonry as the author gives penetrating answers to the questions many people ask about this secret society.



10 Lies Men Believe

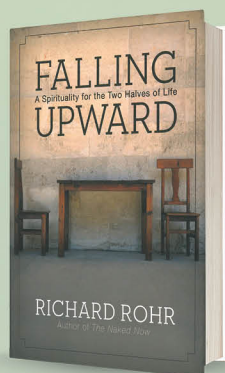
by J. Lee Grady

Item #B1269 \$14.99

Every day our dysfunctional culture sends mixed signals about manhood as we are bombarded with messages that try to set the standard for us.

But if we are honest we must admit that physical strength, money and multiple sex partners don't qualify us for true manhood. The measure of a real man has nothing to do with shallow cultural standards.

J. Lee Grady has spent ten years confronting the abuse of women in more than twenty-four countries, and he has seen firsthand how men are struggling in their marriages, families, friendships, and careers because of the wrong mind-sets they have absorbed from their culture. In *10 Lies Men Believe* he exposes these lies and offers practical answers for every man who struggles to discover his true purpose and identity.



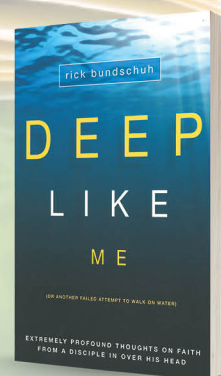
Falling Upward

by Father Richard Rohr

Item #B1278 \$19.95

In the first half of life, we are naturally and rightly preoccupied with establishing our identity—climbing, achieving, and performing. But those concerns will not serve us as we grow older and face challenges, mistakes, loss of control, and necessary suffering that actually shocks us out of our prior comfort zone. Eventually, we need to see ourselves in a different and more life-giving way.

In *Falling Upward*, Father Richard Rohr offers new understanding of one of life's mysteries: how our failings can be the foundation for our ongoing spiritual growth. With rare insight, Rohr takes us on a journey to give us an understanding of how the heartbreaks, disappointments, and first loves of life are actually stepping stones to the spiritual joys that the second half of life has in store for us.



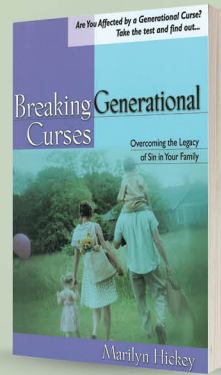
Deep Like Me

by Rick Bundschuh

Item #B1260 \$12.99

When people dive into the deep end of a life with Jesus, they realize before long that following in the footsteps of the Man Who Walked on Water is much more complex and challenging than just reading the Bible and minding their Ps and Qs. It is a deep-sea adventure filled with wonder and difficulty, with learning and unlearning. Many soon feel like they're in over their heads.

In *Deep Like Me*, pastor Rick Bundschuh shares what he has discovered about the immersive life of faith in Jesus and invites you to wrestle, grieve, re-evaluate, redirect, focus, contemplate, be still and get real about living the deep life of a disciple. Whether you feel like you're swimming your way to a gold medal or barely keeping your head above the waves, Rick's stories of spiritual exploration are a call to leave the shallows and head for deeper water—awash in the Spirit and buoyed by grace.



Breaking Generational Curses

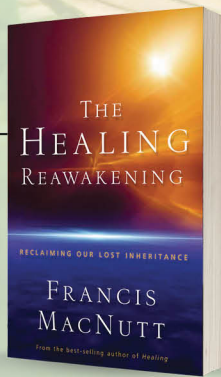
by Marilyn Hickey

Item #B1277 \$14.99

Do you or someone in your family exhibit high levels of anger, suffer from mental illness, have a history of abuse, or experience a high number of personal failures? This could be a generational curse. Now is the time to shatter the past and take control of the future!

A generational curse involves negative patterns from your family history that are repeated in your own life. However, God's plan for you is a better future! You can overcome these curses of the past by utilizing the powerful lessons and worksheets in this book. Take the complete version of the test inside, then walk step-by-step with international speaker and author Marilyn Hickey through identifying and breaking the generational curses in your life!

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THE HEALING REAWAKENING by Francis MacNutt

Although the main method leading to the conversion of the Roman Empire during the early years of Christianity lay in dramatically healing the sick and casting out evil spirits, the belief in supernatural healing nearly disappeared from mainline churches during the following centuries.

How did something so central to Jesus' own heart, something so essential to the spreading of the Gospel, nearly disappear? Join Francis as he explores this fascinating question.

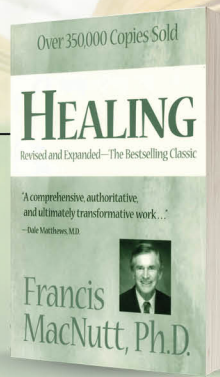
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DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL SPIRITS by Francis MacNutt

Do evil spirits oppress people today? This practical manual covers such subjects as clearing away misconceptions about deliverance, the Scriptural basis for deliverance, curses and the power of false judgment, preparation for deliverance ministry, praying for deliverance, and deliverance of places.

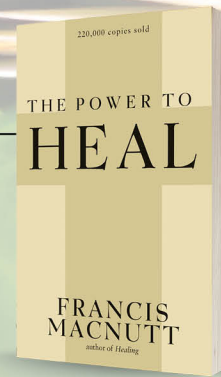
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HEALING 25th Anniversary Edition by Francis MacNutt

Twenty-five years after its original release, it has been updated! Learn how the marvelous healing touch of God is available to you. The revolutionary yet balanced teaching of Francis MacNutt will open you to the experience of healing for you and those you love. The millions who have benefited from this book testify to its life-changing message. It is considered the classical work on the subject of Christian healing prayer.

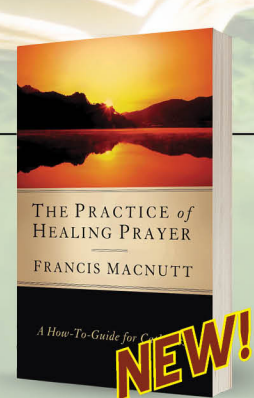
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THE POWER TO HEAL by Francis MacNutt

A moving and powerful witness to the healing action of the Holy Spirit, this book clarifies many points that have been a mystery and sometimes a barrier to those praying for healing. It deals directly with some very difficult issues.

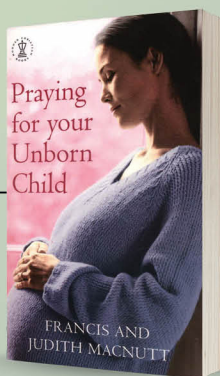
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Price: \$16.95



THE PRACTICE OF HEALING PRAYER by Francis MacNutt

Join Francis MacNutt as he encourages Catholics to view healing prayer as an integral part of their life in Christ. This easy-to-read and informative book includes a step-by-step guide of how to pray with others through the laying on of hands; explains the various types of healings that we can expect—physical, emotional, and spiritual; discusses the healing effects of the sacraments; and features stories of people who have been healed through prayer.

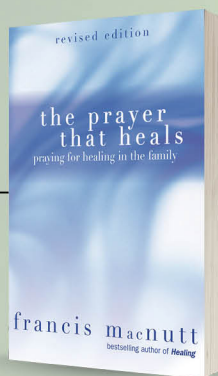
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PRAYING FOR YOUR UNBORN CHILD by Francis and Judith MacNutt

What might happen if expectant mothers and fathers learned to pray for their babies even before birth? Sharing their conviction that "Jesus really wants to consecrate your child, to fill him with love and bring him into His Father's family," the MacNutt's give examples of the wondrous difference that prayer makes. Also available on cd.

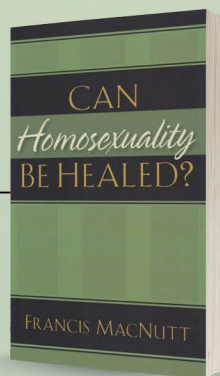
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THE PRAYER THAT HEALS by Francis MacNutt

This book teaches people how to pray at home for healing of family members. Says Dr. MacNutt, "Praying together at home is such a beautiful experience—and so easy to learn—that the present bleak record (of broken families) could easily be improved if people were taught and 'given permission' to try... I hope Christian families will experience the joy of praying together." Also available on cd.

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CAN HOMOSEXUALITY BE HEALED? by Francis MacNutt

Over the years, Francis MacNutt has seen phenomenal results in the area of healing for homosexuals. Through prayer, those same-sex desires can be changed... healed. Gays or Lesbians actually become heterosexual. We invite you to learn how to help someone find freedom. (Revised edition.)

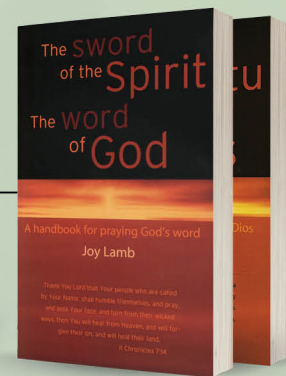
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OVERCOME BY THE SPIRIT by Francis MacNutt

In the 1960's and '70's, when Dr. MacNutt first witnessed being "slain in the Spirit," he didn't know what to think. Through research, he learned that this phenomenon has occurred throughout Church history. With Biblical wisdom, Dr. MacNutt tackles every question about this controversial issue, including: Isn't it just the power of suggestion? What are the spiritual benefits? How good can something be that causes division and controversy?

Item #: B231
Price: \$16.00



THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, THE WORD OF GOD by Joy Lamb

This wonderful book is based upon the fact that God's inspired Word is the best way to pray and to combat evil. Through this powerful handbook, Mrs. Lamb teaches Christians how to pray Holy Scripture in specific situations.

Item #: B467
Price: \$15.00
Also available in Spanish: Item #5467

To see our CD and DVD selections, visit our website at www.christianhealingmin.org.
For ordering information, go to page fifteen.

In month 6, I immediately had a strong sense of rushing forward, my life flashing before my eyes in a way that revealed to me on the spot that I have literally been rushing my entire life – rushing to be born, to grow up, to make my own decisions, to take control of everything, to live in my own strength. This revelation moments after the expulsion of “Sickness” led us into still more deliverance prayers, this time to expel the demon called “Control.” My right arm began shaking and flapping around again, I felt pressure rising in my chest, began coughing a bit, and in a moment, I saw through closed eyes what seemed to be dark blobs illuminated against a dark background.

What happened next was one of the most overwhelmingly powerful spiritual experiences in my life. My prayer ministers started praying for God to literally breathe His breath into my lungs. I never felt such a purity of air inflating my lungs with every glorious breath, my torso literally rising and falling without any effort on my part other than inhaling God's life-giving breath. I thought of Genesis when God breathed His breath of life into Adam's lungs. Oh, I wished I could go on breathing the literal breath of Jesus Christ forever. The more I breathed, the more my torso rose without any muscular effort from me, until I was sitting bolt upright, eyes turned heavenward. I tried to explain what was happening to my prayer ministers without losing a drop of this pure, delicious air, and they said they were feeling the same thing; that Jesus was right there among us, breathing into all our lungs!

We moved to month 9, and all I sensed was total blackness. Absolutely nothing at all. This was later explained by my mother, who said the doctors who delivered me decided to heavily sedate her to make it easier for them to help bring me into the world. They used so much sedative that I was born sedated, without crying or anything. That explains the heavy blackness. When we finally moved into the actual birth prayer at the end, my face broke out into an irrepressible smile, ear to ear, signaling to me that I was truly healed. It was great. Jesus healed me. Just like He promised the day before that He would. The Lord always makes good His promises to us!

*If you haven't had 'Conception to Birth' prayer, I can only ask—
What are you waiting for??? DO IT!!! Why waste another day? ☞*



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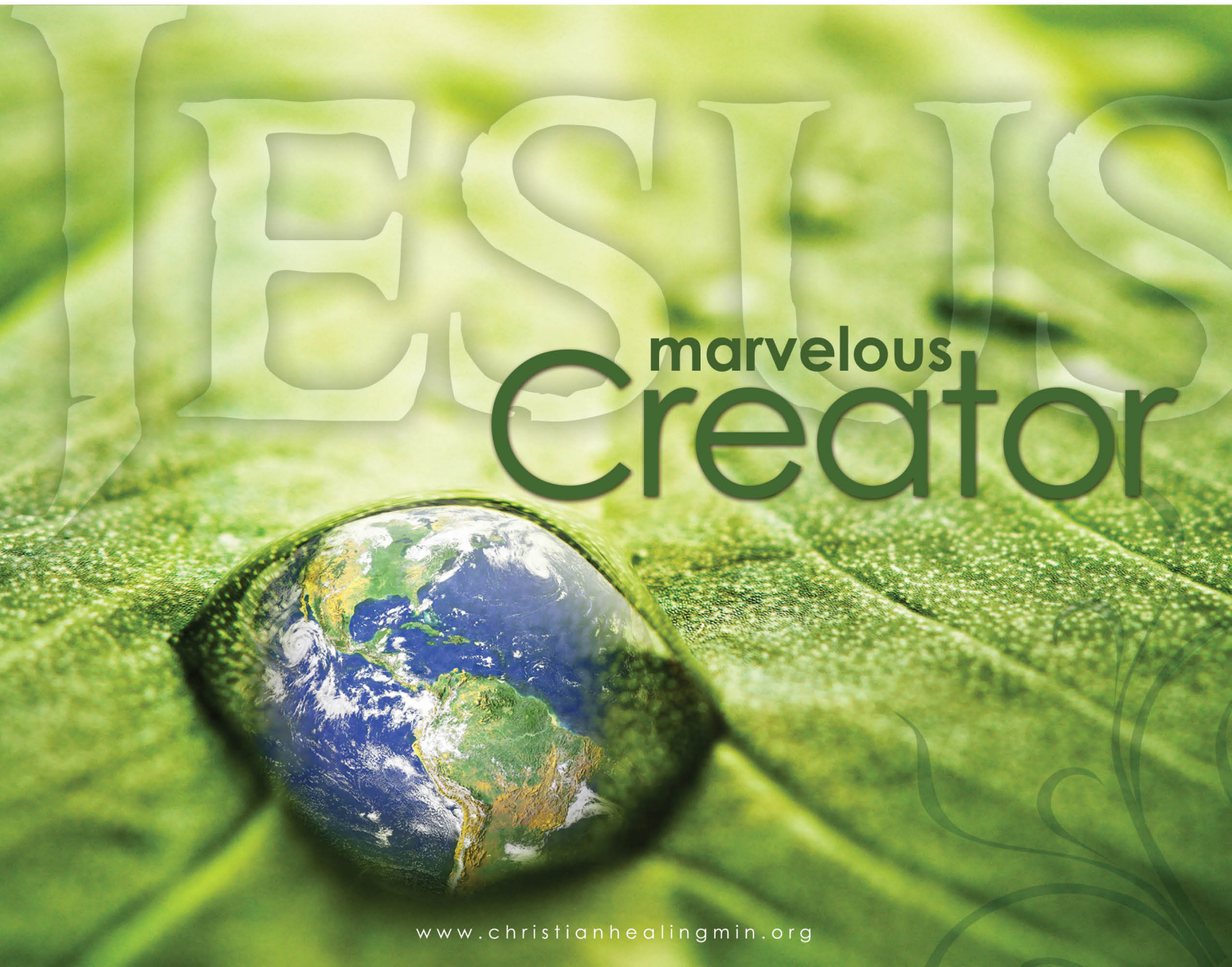
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