

HEALINGLIE Summer 2015

Remember Your Story

The Mystery of Healing

My Church is a Mental Hospital

What is a Sick Person To Do?

HEALINGLINE

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PUBLISHING:

KATHI SMITH, Senior Editor

TINA SCHINNELLER, Creative Editor, Design & Layout

SUE POLSLEY, Assisting Editor

FOUNDING DIRECTORS:

Francis MacNutt, Ph.D. Judith MacNutt, M.A.

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Dear Healing Line Family,

Are any of you saying, "Summer already?" Or are many of you so happy to finally say, "All of the snow has melted, praise the Lord!"? We all react differently to similar experiences, and so we find this happens in a healing prayer session. A sensitive person might have bad nightmares after a car accident, whereas a no-fear kind of personality might laugh and say, "Haha, that was close!" A scar from a fight might be horrible for one person's self-esteem, yet might be a "notch on his or her belt" for another. "Remember to ask the Holy Spirit to guide your prayer time" is what we teach at CHM. We try not to be formulaic, but to listen to both the Holy Spirit and to the prayer recipient. We love them and pray whatever direction the Holy Spirit seems to be guiding. Every person is different and every prayer session is unique. It never gets boring!

We at Christian Healing Ministries love to hear about the experiences you have had in the realm of healing, transformation and learning about healing. Just this week I got my first sunburn of the season talking in my backyard with someone about the Holy Spirit and His gifts. I felt the heat, looked at my iPhone and realized we had been there for four hours (it is a nasty sunburn!). This young woman (I'll call her Mary) had so many questions about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I didn't have all the answers, but we had a good long talk with a lot of life stories that flowed out. I had no idea of her background, but after a long period of time, she told me she had been hurt previously by someone who taught about the Holy Spirit. She appreciated my honesty when I said I don't have all the answers. Our conversation was full of honesty and love, and when she left, I felt so thankful to have been in her presence. I was reminded that we don't have all the answers. I was reminded that sometimes it is scary to open up to strangers. I remembered back to the days when in my eagerness I probably shoved my desire to pray down peoples' throats without letting them say no. I said a short prayer in remembrance of all the Marys I have met and am going to meet: Lord, please let me listen well, love well and let me get out of the way when it comes to praying for people. I invite you, Holy Spirit, into this sacred place. Have Your way. Amen.

May God bless your summer! Kathi Smith Senior Editor

KATHI SMITH

Senior Editor of *Healing Line* and an active prayer minister and volunteer at CHM.



Photo by Deborah S. Rieman

CAFRANCIS & JUDITH

I feel called to the healing ministry and perhaps to start a healing center. How do I go about that and what do I do about the fact that there are not many prayer ministers in my area?

The most important step to take before you do anything is to make sure this is what God is calling you to do—because the call is what brings the anointing. The next step is to gather intercessors. Before you do anything, make sure intercessors are in place. Knowing that you have people who are committed to praying for you and for the ministry is crucial. Once those two things have been established, we would suggest that you begin by going to local pastors and churches and talking to them about the need for healing. You will be surprised by the number of pastors who are open to that discussion. Out of those discussions, you might begin to find like-minded people and prayer ministers to come alongside you. Once you have these things in place, the prayer ministers will come. They will be drawn by the Holy Spirit. Practically speaking, you could begin to offer times of training and invite whomever is interested. Our Schools of Healing Prayer® are a great resource, either the CDs or DVDs. You could begin to train people in your area. We see that happening all the time, all over the world.

What is DID?

that used to be called Multiple Personality Disorder. It is a term that used to be called Multiple Personality Disorder. Dissociation is a much better description because it is not a form of mental illness. Dissociation is a natural response of the brain. For example, how many of you have been driving in the car and you arrive at your destination with no memory of how you got there? That is dissociation. Obviously, that is a healthy example of dissociation; your brain has an incredible ability to take over for you and to multitask. The very word dissociate describes what happens. A person

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dissociates away from their core personality. Often, you will hear the word alter instead of personality when referring to DID. Alters are formed when a person experiences trauma and dissociates as a way of escape, or even survival from their current state or personality. Depending on the magnitude of the trauma, there can be as many as 50 alters which become like storage places within the personality for traumatic events. As prayer ministers, we must understand how complex this is. We must be loving and patient with people who have been diagnosed with DID. We must also understand that DID requires more than just prayer ministry. It is important to know who the therapists (preferably Christian) are in your area so you can refer prayer recipients to them for the care they need if you suspect DID. The best scenario is when the prayer ministers and the therapists can collaborate and work together, with the consent of the recipient. Never share information with anyone outside of the prayer appointment without (written) consent of the recipient. Also, we find that an alter can also react in a way that resembles the demonic, so it is important to have discernment in this process, because we do not deliver people from alters. If you are a prayer minister without experience in this realm, it is important to seek the authority of the leader who does have experience in this realm.

How do you minister to people, such as military chaplains, who work with members of the armed forces who then commit suicide?

🛕 🖁 There is a lot of death within the military ministry, whether through war or suicide. When something like this happens, it is important to understand that these people, the chaplains as well as the leaders, have experienced trauma. If there is a specific trauma, we listen to the Holy Spirit to guide us through the trauma and all of its many effects. Coming to grips with a loss due to suicide can be a long and complicated process. Grieving a loss and releasing a person you care about is very difficult. When you look at someone who is in the role of a chaplain, there is not only that great sense of loss because of how bonded they are to their group, but there is often a great sense of responsibility. There can be guilt or even blame, leaving them wondering if they could have done more. That is one of the tragedies of suicide; beyond the loss of the individual, people are left wondering if they did enough to help. Additionally, not everyone picks up the signals of suicide and so it can come as a complete surprise. Therefore, these people need a great deal of love and care. They need to be able to release the ones who have died into God's care and to trust that in God's mercy, He is with them. The Holy Spirit

is the best guide for the specific needs of inner healing for them and possibly deliverance for these traumatic experiences.

Can you talk about grief?

A In our Schools of Healing Prayer® at CHM, we teach very thoroughly on the emotions because they are often the reason people come for prayer ministry. People get stuck in an emotion that takes over. Grief is the emotion you will more than likely run into the most in prayer ministry. Almost everyone we see will have at least one small pocket of unresolved grief. At almost every conference we give, when we have time for some sort of ministry response, a large percentage of what we hear has to do with grief. "I lost my job,""my spouse left me,""my child is suffering,""we're struggling financially," etc. This is all grief that they are carrying because of their circumstances. What is so beautiful is that we as prayer ministers simply need to call on the Holy Spirit, who is the great comforter, and all of that sorrow is released. The Holy Spirit really knows how to get at grief and deal with it. For people who get stuck in grief with no reprieve, we suggest counseling alongside prayer ministry. Counselors are trained to unpackage and process grief with their clients.

At CHM, you pray to send things to Jesus for Him to deal with. I have heard other people pray to send them back to hell, where they came from. Can you explain why you pray the way you do?

A The simple response to your question is that we would rather leave it up to Jesus. He is our only authority. We also do not want to treat something that is not evil as if it is. As in the case of DID, some people think a reaction is demonic, and since we don't always have discernment, we want Jesus to deal with it. We would rather not send something to hell because it is not our decision to make whether or not that is where it came from or belongs. We believe it is Jesus' decision. He is the Judge and so we leave that up to him. Also, in prayer ministry, we find that it is a much more loving way to minister. When a prayer recipient hears us sending things to hell, that can be alarming, especially in the presence of trauma or fear. When they hear us sending things to Jesus, it comes across much more loving. We do not want to put fear into our prayer recipients. Additionally, we have no authority in that realm. We have authority to do what the Holy Spirit is telling us to do and that is to command the demon to leave a child of God. We know that Jesus is present while deliverance is happening, so we just

REMEMBER **YOUR STORY**

REV. DR. PAULA OWENS PARKER

he Bible is full of genealogy. The book of Numbers is about the census and genealogy of the Israelites in the wilderness. The book of Ruth has the genealogy of David. The first nine chapters of 1 Chronicles is a comprehensive genealogy of all the tribes of Israel. The first chapter in the first book of the New Testament is the genealogy of Jesus. It was very important for the Jewish people to know who their ancestors were. It was important for them to know their roots. When the Israelites were about to enter the Promised Land, God spoke these words to them and instructed them to pass their story down through the generations:

And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates....When your son asks you in time to come, saying, "What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgments which the Lord our God has commanded you?" Then you shall say to your son: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand."

-Deuteronomy 6:6-9, 20-21

Over and over again God said to the Israelites, remember me and remember your story. God kept impressing upon them the need to remember their story. The third commandment says:

You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

-Exodus 20:4-6

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There are many examples of the Israelites forgetting who they were and laying aside their values. The familiar stories of King David and his family are such examples. Specific examples among David's eight wives are Ahinoam the mother of David's first son, Amnon; Maacah the mother David's third son Absalom and daughter Tamar; and Bathsheba the mother of Solomon.

David summoned Bathsheba to himself after he watched her, a married woman, bathe. He coerced her to sleep with him and she became pregnant. To cover up his seduction and rape, he had her husband, Uriah, killed so he could marry Bathsheba. This was the first generation of seduction, rape and murder within David's line. Amnon, David's first son, found Tamar his half-sister attractive and set up a plot to seduce her. When she would not cooperate, he raped her. David did nothing to punish Amnon. Abasalom, Tamar's brother and Amnon's half-brother, had a plot to kill Amnon and succeeded two years later. This is the second generation of seduction, rape and murder. Solomon, David's son by Bathsheba, had seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines. As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart toward other gods. God became angry with Solomon and said to him,

Since this is your attitude and you have not kept my covenant and my decrees, which I commanded you, I will most certainly tear the kingdom away from you and give it to one of your subordinates. Nevertheless, for the sake of David your father, I will not do it during your lifetime. I will tear it out of the hand of your son. —1 Kings 11:11-12

The generational sin of seduction, and violation (rape) tainted Solomon's relationship with God. The consequence of Solomon's seduction and unfaithfulness to God was the loss of the kingdom. Seduction, adultery, rape, murder and unfaithfulness passed down to three generations. God said to the Israelites, and God says to us: "Remember who I am, remember what I have done for you, remember how you feel about me, and remember how I want to bless you. Tell your stories to your children, talk about them all the time and pass them on to the next generation."

There are reasons why we don't know all we should about our families. There are silent stories that are overlooked; secret stories that are intentionally hidden; and there are severed stories caused by a chaotic rupture in the culture.

SILENT STORIES

Silent stories are unrecognized, overlooked and glossed over. There are many silent stories about women in the Bible because there is very little genealogy on the women's families. There is one exception, the daughters of Zelophehad in Numbers 27:1-11. They

were descendants of Joseph and his Egyptian wife Asenath. Joseph and Asenath had two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. They were adopted and blessed by Joseph's father, Jacob, and became two of the twelve tribes of Israel. The tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim have African and Hebrew ancestry. Zelophehad was a descendant of the tribe of Manasseh. The daughters of Zelophehad were the third greatgranddaughters of Asenath. They could trace their family back to their third great-grandmother, who was royalty in her own right and had her own story. The daughters' names were recorded, which was unusual. Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah's father died and left no sons. The existing laws gave the inheritance to the closest male relative. They challenged the laws and asked for their father's land and won, changing the inheritance laws for women. The only stipulation added later in Numbers 36:1-12 was that if they married, they had to marry someone from their tribe so their inheritance would remain in the tribe. The story of the daughters of Zelophehad is a silent story, overlooked by many students of the Bible. It is not in any of the three cycles of the lectionary, which begs the question, what other silent stories are we overlooking?

SECRET STORIES

Secret stories are veiled, concealed and buried by unanswered questions, purposeful omissions, and incomplete truths. We may not know the secret of these stories but we know they exist. Domestic violence victims are among those who are keepers of secrets. They make excuses and hide their fear, anxiety, and humiliation. Sexual abuse survivors are threatened with punishment if they "tell." They bury their confusion, shame and guilt. War veterans mask the trauma of combat. Clandestine love affairs are camouflaged. Secrets, however, can unravel. For example:

Jenna's life began with a secret: Her father hid Jenna's existence from his own parents and siblings [for many years] until he became seriously ill. Six years later, Jenna, then 30 and living in Oakland, discovered another man was keeping her a secret. She was eight months pregnant when Allen revealed that he maintained two apartments—one with his wife of ten years and their 5- and 8-year-old daughters, and another for his secret affairs. Jenna realized that she was repeating an old pattern. Allen had entangled her in a web of lies and denial, just as her father once had. Jenna entered therapy and began to connect the dots. She chose men who were not available to her, men who couldn't commit, were dishonest, and had secret lives. She never felt like she was chosen by her father, and kept repeating that pattern in her relationships.¹

Secret stories have a way of telling on themselves eventually.

SEVERED STORIES

The Transatlantic and Domestic Slave Trade, the Jewish Holocaust, the Armenian Genocide, and the Massacre at Wounded Knee, are all examples of severed stories, stories cut off from their historical and cultural roots. For years, the Holocaust survivors were encouraged not to talk about their experiences. Denial, repression, avoidance and indifference were the reactions of some in the Jewish community and many in the larger society. The survivors were accused of actively or passively participating in their own destiny by "going like sheep to slaughter." "Bystander guilt" led many to accuse survivors of participating in immoral acts in order to live. The bystanders' attitudes influenced survivors to stop talking, but their pain did not go away and it showed up in their children.

Intergenerational trauma was first observed in 1966 by clinicians who were alarmed by and concerned about the number of children of survivors of the Holocaust seeking treatment in clinics in Canada. The children displayed depression, suicidal thoughts and behavior, guilt about betraying their ancestors, and guilt for being excluded from the suffering. They felt obligated to share in the ancestral pain, to take care of and be responsible for survivor parents. They had dreams and saw images that were unexplainable.

The Armenian Genocide was an atrocious severed story kept secret. When the Ottoman Empire entered World War I there were an estimated two million Armenians living in Eastern Anatolia. By the end of the war, only ten percent were still alive. They had been shot, lynched, and driven into the Syrian desert, or forced to convert and practice Islam. The Turkish government refused to call it genocide and justified their actions as a national security measure to suppress rebellion. Other countries looked the other way. Hitler took note of the indifference and determined he could exterminate the Jews without protest. Severed stories can generate horrendous consequences.

Flora Keshgegian, an Episcopal priest, is the child of survivors of the Armenian Genocide. In her experience, the victims of the genocide are portrayed as martyrs who died for their faith and ethnic identity. To forget was seen as betrayal that dishonored and dismissed their sacrifice. She struggled for ways to honor her history without being stuck in a victimized way of seeing the world.²

Keshgegian believes the work of the church, shaped by the story of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is to be redemptive and transformative. In her book, *Redeeming Memories: A Theology of Healing and Transformation*, she writes:

"To promote healing and transformation we must first remember. Remember the suffering and losses, remember the resistance and agency and remember the connection with life and wholeness not

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send them to Him. Jesus is present with His authority; we are simply His representatives. We believe that when a demon comes out of a person, it goes over to Jesus and kneels down. We have been given that image by so many people who see into the spiritual realm. It is interesting because if we do not say "go to Jesus," the demons come out but they linger. We would much rather know that they are at Jesus' feet.

We have to remember that demons are powerful beings and we do not want to have to deal with them any longer than necessary. It is a very serious battle we are stepping into when dealing with the demonic—but we do not have to be afraid because we know the One who won the war. However, we still treat Satan and the demonic realm with respect. We do not want to mock them. It really concerns us when we hear people ridiculing or mocking demons because that is engaging with that realm in a way that could be very dangerous. Our tactic at CHM is to say what we have to say and be done with it. Do not engage the demonic in conversation; just send them to Jesus. Tell them not to come back. Seal the doors that led to their opening and be done with them. It is an evil realm and Jesus is the one who defeated them, so we let Him deal with where they go.

Can someone who has no faith or belief in God be healed?

the Syrophoenician woman was healed at a distance and she was a Gentile. She probably did not have much faith and she did not believe. The people whom Jesus was praying for (and healing) were not believers. Jesus said, "Go and proclaim the Gospel. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons. Proclaim that the Kingdom of God is here." Doing the works of Jesus causes people to know that He is real. So yes, people who have no faith or belief in God can absolutely be healed. That is how Jesus drew people to Himself; He healed them and *then* they believed. One of our favorite examples of someone who was healed without faith was Lazarus. He was raised from the dead and had no faith as a dead man in the tomb.

FRANCIS & JUDITH MACNUTT

Co-founders of CHM.



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defined by the suffering. The suffering and loss must be remembered and mourned. Remembering resistance enables resilience, the ability to recover from difficult situations. In doing so we expand the hope for ourselves and future generations. The church as a community of remembrance honors and preserves memories of suffering; evokes, recognizes and validates memories of resistance; and actively supports, and celebrates memories of connections and life affirmation."³

Marie Yellow Horse Brave Heart, a descendant of Sitting Bull, is Research Associate Professor and Director of Native American and Disparities Research at University of New Mexico. In her study of generational trauma in the descendants of the massacre at Wounded Knee, Brave Heart found that the federal government's eradication of traditional Lakota mourning practices fueled what she has defined as historical trauma, a cumulative emotional and psychological wounding over the lifespan and across generations, emanating from violence inflicted on a large group of people. In response to historical trauma, the descendants suffer from substance abuse, suicidal thoughts and gestures, depression, low self-esteem, anger, and difficulty recognizing and expressing emotions.

Joy Degruy has developed the term Post-Traumatic Slave
Syndrome⁵ (PTSS) which she defines as a condition that exists when
a population has experienced multigenerational trauma resulting
from 1) centuries of slavery, 2) continued experiences of oppression,
3) institutionalized racism and 4) belief (real or imagined) that
the benefits of the society in which they live are not accessible to
them. Multigenerational trauma, plus continued oppression, minus
opportunity to access the benefits available in the society leads to
PTSS6. Degruy defines three categories of behavior in her definition of
PTSS: 1) vacant esteem 2) ever-present anger, and 3) racist socialization.

Not all stories are negative. I have found that to be true in my own family history. Last year I discovered a silent story. I learned that in 1897 my great-grandmother and her four sisters founded the True Love #37 chapter of one of the oldest African American women's organizations in the country. The United Order of Tents was founded in 1867 in Norfolk, VA just after the Civil War. The Tents' mission was to serve, feed, and provide nursing care wherever necessary for newly emancipated men, women and children. They taught young women about Christianity, morals, conduct, and various means of survival as free human beings. Not knowing I was following in the footsteps of my great-grandmother and great-aunts, in 1998 I founded the Daughters of Zelophehad, an ecumenical Christian transitional housing program for women and children in crisis. Its mission was similar—to provide a safe, stable home with pastoral counseling which incorporated healing prayer, case management and skill development workshops. To discover that there was a generational legacy of service to women and the community was validating and affirming.

The Israelites went into the Promised Land, forgot their story and lost their way. God sent the prophets to warn them but they were ignored. When the Israelites returned after 70 years in exile they rededicated themselves but again forgot their story and lost their way. Then God sent his son, Jesus, to show them the way back to God. But he, too, was rejected and had to suffer. On the night of his arrest, Jesus broke bread with his disciples and said, "This is my body broken for you, eat this and remember me; this is the cup of the new covenant sealed in my blood, drink this and remember me." Jesus is our timeless healer and deliverer. Jesus can send his healing presence into all the generations of trauma in our family history so that our eyes are opened, our hearts open up and our families are set free to flourish in the gifts and blessings he has for us. Jesus can make sense of the bits and pieces of the stories we inherited. Jesus severed his relationship with his Father in order to save our relationship with God. If we remember what God has done for us, and keep God first in our lives, God will bless us and our families for a thousand generations. Who knows what blessings are waiting for us! If we bring healing light to the family tree of silent, secret and severed stories that stunt our families' growth; if we tend to our family story by remembering and recognizing the achievements and resilience of our ancestors, we create that fertile soil for present and future generations to flourish.

- ¹ Tara Roberts, "Ghosts of Relationships": Essence Magazine, August 2008.
- ² Paula Owens Parker, "Using the Genogram as a Tool for Healing Transgenerational Trauma in the African American Church Community in Virginia" (D.Min, diss., San Francisco Theological Seminary, 2013), p. 88.
- ³ Flora A. Keshgegian, Redeeming Memories: A Theology of Healing and Transformation. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000, p 122.
- ⁴ Maria Yellow Horse Brave Heart. "Wakiksuyapi:Carrying the Historical Trauma of the Lakota." Tulane Studies in Social Welfare 21 (Winter/Spring part 2): p. 247.
- ⁵ A syndrome is a particular set of behaviors and emotions that are brought about by a distinct set of circumstances.
- ⁶ Joy DeGruy Leary (sic). Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing (Portland, OR: Uptone Press, 2005), 119.

REV. DR. PAULA OWENS PARKER

Rev. Dr. Parker is adjunct professor of Spiritual Formation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA and senior program developer of Roots Matter (rootsmatterIlc.com).



FOR HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US AND CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

ignife2015

THE SUMS!

June 24-27, 2015

at Crowne Plaza Hartford-Cromwell in Cromwell, Connecticut

Ignite is CHM's annual conference in the Northeast.
This event is designed to equip and empower the body of Christ through powerful teachings, spirit-led worship, healing prayer, and group fellowship.

Spenkers



Judith MacNutt
Author, teacher,
conference speaker,
co-founder of Christian
Healing Ministries, Inc.



Author of over 60 books, international speaker and minister.

Worship



Kelanie Gloeckler Prophetic worship leader, song writer

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THE MYSTERY OF HEALING

a personal testimony

ED MCCARTHY

am a Christian attorney (that is not an oxymoron!) on the CHM board in Jacksonville, Florida. I married my wife, Ann, in 2001, and we have three beautiful children (now ages 12, 10 and 9). However, we gave birth to four, and it is through our experiences with the births of our children that my wife and I faced the topic of this article, the *Mystery of Healing*.

During Ann's first pregnancy, all was well until 30 weeks when her water broke, but she was not in labor. We rushed to the ER, and through a lot of prayer and great medical care, she was miraculously able to make it almost five more weeks before going into labor just before the 35th week. After a harrowing emergency C-section, Hannah was born and is now a stunningly beautiful, smart and athletic 12-year-old.

We wanted more children, and we were blessed with another pregnancy nine months later. From the first pregnancy, we learned that Ann has a bicornuate uterus, meaning that because of its shape, the baby could only grow on one side of the uterus. While a concern, the doctors did not realize how significant an issue this would be with the rest of the pregnancies.

With this second pregnancy, everything proceeded well until 21½ weeks (normal gestation being 40 weeks). Ann went into labor; we rushed into the hospital and spent the next 12 hours doing everything possible to stop the labor and to keep the baby in the womb. Everyone at CHM was praying for our baby, but the labor could not be stopped. The next day Owen Carroll McCarthy was born at just under 22 weeks, perfectly formed, perfectly healthy, heartbeat strong to the very end, but just not old enough to live. Holding him in our arms, we were devastated. It was like a deep surgical cut without anesthesia. Owen's gravestone reads: "Born on Earth to Bloom in Heaven."

After much angst we decided to try for another baby. At 34 weeks gestation (most of which was on bed rest) and almost two years to the day of Hannah's birth, Ann gave birth to Cort, a healthy, smart, athletic boy, now 10 years old. He just scored 24 points in his YMCA league basketball game.

Despite significant hesitation on the part of our doctors, and knowing it was high risk, I trusted my wife's intuition that we should try for one more child. Nine months after Cort's birth, we were blessed with another pregnancy.

At 12 weeks Ann went on bed rest again and had her cervix stitched (a cerclage), but at 23½ weeks, she went into labor. We rushed to the hospital, and over the next 30 hours they did everything possible to stop the labor. To make matters worse, Ann's labor was so strong that it started to break through her cerclage. The doctors told us that if that happened, Ann was at risk of bleeding to death. The doctors had to remove the cerclage, but that was the only thing preventing the birth. In a very painful procedure, the cerclage was removed, and the doctors told us that the baby would be delivered in less than an hour. At 23 weeks gestation there would not be enough lung tissue for the baby to survive unless we put him on a ventilator. Even then he would only make it a few days. Essentially, the doctor told us we had two minutes to decide if we were going to put him on life support for a couple of days or just let him die at birth.

So here we were—physical and emotional wrecks—with no sleep in almost two days, reliving the loss of Owen. Ann had just completed a very painful procedure, and we had to make this God-like decision of whether to let our baby die at birth or keep him alive for a few days on the ventilator. Finally, a female NICU doctor came in and suggested that we needed to let the baby go because it was too painful for the baby, and the longest he would live would be three or four days. Sobbing, we decided we would not apply life support when the baby was born.

As that NICU doctor walked out, I remember internally praying more like yelling—to God, "All right God, you have removed the possibility of any doctor taking credit for saving this baby, so what are you going to do? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO???" And I remember right at that moment, an immediate peace came over me, and I had this overwhelming sensation that "it's going to be all right."

At that exact hour, Judith and Francis were leading a CHM healing conference in Colorado for about 400 people, and somehow they had gotten word of what was happening. They stopped the conference and had everybody get on their knees and pray for our baby.

The doctor walked back into the room to check Ann's cervix. As he was checking her, he did a double-take and immediately left the room to find another doctor. They both returned, examed her, and a bit dumbfounded, they said, "We don't understand it; even though your cerclage has been removed, somehow your cervix has not dilated further. So we could try one final drug, Procardia, that only recently has been used on pregnant patients to calm contractions. If it works, maybe we can get two more days, get to the 24th week and perhaps have enough lung tissue to work with to keep your baby

alive." Internally my faith surged—I felt like I was beginning to see what God meant when he said it would be all right.

We decided to try the Procardia and over the next six hours the labor slowly decreased and ultimately ceased. The doctors told us that it would be a miracle if we could get two more days to get to the 24th week. Two days passed and Ann went back into labor; she was still on the Procardia so they added a little Terbutaline and were able to bring the labor under control. Two to three days later, she went into labor again, and again they were able to bring it under control with the Terbutaline. This pattern continued for the next 61/2 weeks. At 291/2 weeks, Ann went into labor, but this time the baby's heart rate went down. They immediately performed an emergency C-section. What the doctors found was that the baby's umbilical cord was so tightly wound (not around his neck, but like a phone cord), that when he was pulling on it he was cutting off his own blood flow. The doctors said that if they had waited another day, he would have been stillborn.

Declan was born at 2 lbs. 15 ounces and was almost 11 weeks early. He spent the next seven weeks in the NICU exceeding all expectations. Today he is a healthy 9 year old, 99th percentile in height; he is bright, athletic and as stubborn as they come. He is a living, walking



miracle, and no doctor who was involved will dispute that.

But here's the mystery: we still lost Owen. We prayed just as hard for Owen to live. Why did God save Declan but not save Owen? Losing Owen shook the very foundation of my belief in God. I never doubted that God existed, but I doubted that he cared, that he really would step in and do something.

For the next year and a half I continued to struggle with why God allowed this to happen. I was earnestly seeking answers, and even took a Bethel Bible course. A class of about 40 people, we were studying John 6 when God pierced my heart. At this point in John, Jesus was seen as a great teacher and rabbi, but the people did not yet understand that he was the Messiah; he was about to change their paradigm. He was asked how to get to heaven, and he answered, "Unless you eat of my Body and drink of my Blood, you cannot get to heaven." This was a hard teaching, and John says that a lot of Jesus' followers turned away. Jesus turned to his twelve disciples and asked, "You do not want to leave me too, do you?" Simon Peter responded,

cont. on page 12

The Mystery of Healing....cont. from page 11

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the holy one of God." (John 6:66-67)

I had read this verse at least ten times before, but this time it was as though God pulled the veil from my eyes. I started sobbing so hard I had to leave the room and go into the hallway. I realized that Simon Peter had no idea what Jesus was talking about. They had not even had the Last Supper and Simon Peter certainly did not know about communion. But he did not need to understand; he just knew that Jesus had the words of eternal life and he had to trust Jesus. That's what pierced me. I realized I did not need to know why Owen died. It was okay to trust God even if I couldn't understand why.

With this revelation, I continued to weep and just prayed to God, "Forgive me for not trusting you. I give you Owen; just take good care of him." With that prayer, I felt a release of something and the beginning of my reconciliation with God. I realized that I was trying to play God. Basically, I was placing myself in God's seat to run the universe. And in my universe either Owen should have lived or I should have answers as to why he didn't live. Just like Adam and Eve

in the Garden of Eden, I was exercising my independence from God, saying, "God, I know how to do this better than you do."

I came to more fully understand and accept that there is a mystery to how God works, including in physical healing. At CHM we have seen some tremendous physical healings. For example, 4-year-old Taylor Mac Smith (son of Taylor and Kathi Smith) was healed of a malformed esophagus valve right after having a doctor confirm that it was a permanent condition.

Another healing our community

experienced was when fellow Board member and friend Jim Francis, was healed of Stage IV Thyroid cancer sitting in the Mayo Clinic waiting room. He was waiting on a CT scan that would show the cancer had spread to his spine. He had been reading and praying through a book on forgiveness and right then he turned over some major forgiveness and resentment issues to God. As he sat in the waiting room, he literally felt something lift off him. Not knowing what that feeling meant, he went the following week to CHM for prayer for the first time. He filled out the form that asks for three things to pray for. He wrote (1) healing and (2) peace for his family; and he intended to write (3) that God would guide his path—but did not because he decided the first two were enough for this short prayer session. Two trained CHM prayer ministers prayed over him and sensed that he had already been healed. Then one of them asked if she could anoint his feet with oil because she sensed God saying

that he wanted to guide Jim's path—the very thing that Jim had not written down. Jim returned to Mayo Clinic to get one final scan before his surgery, and the doctors could find no cancer on his spine; in fact, they couldn't find it anywhere in his body. He was cancer free, and has been for more than ten years now.

Yet, sometimes the physical healing does not happen. It could be because of blocks to healing such as lack of forgiveness, addictions, unrepented sin, occult behavior or generational sin from which the person needs to be broken free. Sometimes the sick person even embraces the sickness as penance for their sins, which acts as a block to any potential healing.

But sometimes there is no such block, or the block is prayed through and the physical healing still does not occur.

One of our beloved CHM workers, Jeff Sampson, died of cancer after years of battle and several times believing he had been healed. There certainly was no shortage of prayer by Francis and Judith and all of us at CHM, but God did not heal his cancer, and allowed him to go much too soon. The why is a mystery. But when the healing

prayers are in love (such as with the prayers for Jeff), then very often spiritual and emotional healing occurs, even when physical healing does not.

In summary, the mystery of healing and its closely related cousin, the mystery of suffering, were perhaps best explained by the Bishop of Durham who addressed the mourners of a coal mining accident in England about a century ago:

It's difficult to understand why God let such a disaster happen, but we know and trust him and all will be right. At

home, I have an old, silk bookmark given to me by my mother. When I examine the wrong side, I see nothing but a tangle of threads. It looks like a big mistake. One would think someone had done it who didn't know what they were doing; but when I turn it over and look at the right side, I see, beautifully embroidered the words "God is love". We are looking at this today from the wrong side. Some day we shall see it from another standpoint and we shall understand.



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Trial lawyer and partner at the Rogers Towers P.A. law firm in Jacksonville, Florida, Ed has served on the CHM board for almost 20 years. He is married to Ann and they have three children.



AN IMPORTANT NOTE TO CURRENT MATERIAL AND CONTROL OF THE CONTROL O

HANK YOU for being so interested in healing prayer, and for being part of our CHM family! It is our joy and honor to share with you teachings, testimonies, and news from CHM, and we look forward to continuing that work for many years to come!

After reviewing our printing and mailing expenses, we would like to change our *Healing Line* policy at the beginning of 2016 to help reduce costs. **Every person currently on our mailing list** will receive **Healing Line magazine** in digital form via email if we have your email address on file. The digital format allows you to easily share the magazine with friends and family.

We will continue to make *Healing Line* available to any of you that have made a donation, participated in a CHM event, or made a purchase from the bookstore within the last 12 months. If you have not participated in the past 12 months, and would like to receive a hard copy, please consider making a \$20.00 donation to help cover our publishing costs.

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:

In the middle of the magazine you will find a small envelope:

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You will receive *Healing Line* magazine for 12 months from the date of your donation (4 times a year). Thank you so much for reading *Healing Line* and supporting Christian Healing Ministries. We look forward to serving you in the years to come through articles dedicated to the practice and teaching of healing prayer.





MY CHURCH is a MENTAL HOSPITAL

REV. DR. CLETUS L. HULL, III

psychiatric hospital. I recall the first moment that I arrived on the hospital campus, just one day after my ordination in the Christian ministry, and since that time, it has been a joy to serve in this specialized vocation. The unique challenges and benefits of this work have created many rewarding moments. In this article, I would like to discuss three areas of ministry that have grown in my chaplaincy, and with each area, personal stories revealing spiritual meaning for our lives.

THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

I discovered that forgiveness transcends the walls of religion and mental health issues. In other words, people intuitively know if you care about them or not.

Early in my work, I walked upstairs into the acute ward wearing my clerical collar. As I entered, a staff person requested that I speak with a certain patient. I walked over to his location and sat beside him.

He noticed my collar and hesitantly asked, "You're not going to try to convert me, are you?" I said that I had just stopped to see how he was doing. We conversed for a few minutes and then he said something I will never forget.

"I'm a Muslim," he said. "But I have read all the holy books. The Koran, the Bible, Buddhist teachings—but there is something in the teachings of Jesus I really liked a lot."

I asked him what teachings he meant. He replied, "All those teachings on forgiveness! Wouldn't this be a better world if people actually forgave each other?" I thought to myself, This person struggling with mental health issues and from a different religion comprehends more about Christianity than some Christians I know!

I believe forgiveness is a mercy that can be experienced no matter how sick we are or what we believe. Forgiveness remains a remarkable power that changes the core of our spiritual nucleus, delivering peace. Forgiveness is an amazing power!

THE POWER OF PRAYER

I discovered that prayer unlocks inner strength and creativity within every person.

Trauma to Transformation....cont. from page 9

Throughout the years patients would come, grab me by the hand, and say, "Chaplain, pray for me!" Sometimes depression, along with desperation brimmed in their eyes or trembled on their lips.

To this comment I said, "Okay, I'll pray for you, but will you also pray for me as well?"

At times, they wanted to know why I desired their prayers. Then I would relate the Scripture from James 5:16 (ESV), "Pray for one another, that you may be healed." Surprisingly, no patient has turned me down. They always prayed for me. Always! So, I prayed for them and they did the same on my behalf. Many times, they articulated something like this:

"Dear, God, thank you for this chaplain who has come to my unit. I pray you will be with him as he goes from ward to ward to be with the people. Bless him and encourage him wherever he goes..."

In those holy occasions, I would look up and wonder, could this be the same person who had called for prayer? From where had all this passion and caring come? I believe all along, its beginning resided deep within the patient's being. It just needed a release—that was all.

As we know, one of the best ways to fight a depressed state of mind is to support someone else. It makes us feel better about others and ourselves. As these patients prayed for me, they discovered God moving through them, giving positive liberation from what led them to prayer. That is the power of prayer!

THE POWER OF SYMBOLS

I discovered that we may call symbols sacraments, ordinances, or a point of contact. Your faith tradition may have a different name; nevertheless, spiritual symbols are a concrete means to reach and touch the Transcendent God.

For many years, I was a member of a society of chaplains that provided various continuing education seminars. At one meeting, a professor from a reformed Christian perspective addressed the need for God to be God and for us chaplains to not execute God's plan. He reminded us, "We don't heal, God heals. We do not need to make things happen, God makes them happen."

Then, he suggested this thought, which I wrote down:

"If you want to make every hospital visit a success, you need to bring these five symbols with you into the room—healing oil, holy communion, the Bible, laying on of hands and prayer. Ask the patient if they would receive these symbols of God's presence and watch the Lord work."

I was advised that by utilizing these five scriptural symbols, people would sense that they had received ministry; therefore, I would not need to worry about my inelegant comments. The power that these symbols represent would accomplish what was needed. Reading

an open Bible, anointing with oil or grasping one's hand in prayer surpasses anything I could achieve with my initiative. "We cannot do it. Let God bear the load of ministry!" the professor would reiterate. Ministry is about the God who acts in human beings. For many in our profession, it takes deep courage to say, "I can't do this myself." The symbols unveil concrete expressions of the Lord that people touch and hold with their faith. These Bible-honored symbols are points of contact connecting us with God.

I recall one chaplain's spiritual support group that he modestly named, The Psalms. His sole intention was to recite the lament psalms with whoever attended. The group never lacked an audience. In fact, patients could not wait to arrive. Additionally, they read aloud certain passages of the Bible that affected our spiritual lives—such as Psalm 23, the Lord's Prayer, etc. When we announced over the loud speaker that a service with Holy Communion was being offered, more people came to these occasions than the regular worship services. Numerous patients desired to be anointed with oil as well. Certainly, we have experienced this divine power whether we consciously know it or not. Symbols of faith employ the five senses to associate with spiritual convictions and draw us closer to the original faith that touched our soul. That is the power of symbols!

The power of forgiveness, prayer, and symbols operate tremendously in the hard places of ministry. Because of their divine origin, I believe they demonstrate God's healing nature. As a chaplain or a lay minister in the Christian faith, we minister the life of Christ, who brought wholeness to a fragmented world. These three well-known areas of ministry—forgiveness, prayer, and symbols—represent that God is the ultimate Healer, while we humbly share as the conduits of God's wholeness in humanity. Without a doubt, chaplaincy is a front row seat and a privileged place where we watch God work as we stand back and give him the glory!

REV. DR. CLETUS L. HULL, III

A pastor of 27 years, Rev. Dr. Hull has served as a chaplain in two Pensylvania State psychiatric hospitals for 25 of those years. His website is cletushull.com.



CHRISTIAN HEALING MINISTRIES CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

Majesty

Captivate is CHM's annual women's conference in Jacksonville, Florida. This event is designed to create an environment where women of all ages can seek God together, experience personal healing, and go deeper in the things of God.

Speakers



Judith MacNutt



Graham Cooke



Kelanie Gloeckler

October 1-3, 2015 at Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Jacksonville, Florida

Register online at www.christianhealingmin.org

WHAT IS A SICK PERSON TO DO?

LEE PHILLIPS

frequently tell people, "I am alive because you prayed for me."

The book of James includes a lot of helpful hints for everyday life.

Are you hurt? In trouble? Are you happy? A sinner? Sick? What is the responsibility of a sick person? James 5 tells the sick person to simply ask for prayer and anointing with oil. That's it.

This is my story.

In August of 2012 my little rowboat bumped up against a very rocky shore. I had a persistent pain in my back and wondered, "Maybe I have a gallstone?" Out of the blue came the dreaded phone call and I was diagnosed with Stage 4 inoperable pancreatic cancer. This is a terrible diagnosis—only 1% of people with pancreatic cancer will live for 5 years. My life expectancy was 6-9 months. And to make matters worse, the cancer had escaped my pancreas and spread to my liver. My liver was filled with cancer spots. I was in my mid-fifties with a healthy lifestyle, rarely sick, no family history, a great marriage, three children, rewarding career and my youngest was leaving in a few weeks to start college. How could such a beautiful August day hold such bad news? I had a death sentence over my head. And yet I had everything to live for.

My husband, my friends and my church decided that we were going to work this illness hard.

Medically and spiritually we would bring every weapon to bear against this. I began 12 rounds of chemotherapy and a clinical trial at the University of Chicago. I was scared to death and getting sicker every day.

About this time God gave me Exodus 14:14 as His word for my cancer.

Moses spoke to the people. "Don't be afraid. Stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will bring to you today. The Egyptians (the giants) you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you. You need only to be still."

I was terrified and could hardly speak the "C" word. It was also hard to speak to God.

I began chemo and I started to feel like prayer was work, a job that I was too tired to do.

cont. on page 22







June

For all Tuesday prayer ministry, be sure to call CHM first at 904-765-3332 to verify there are no cancellations.

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday		
	Day of Healing Prayer on CHM campus	2	3	4	5	6		
7	8	9 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	10	11	12	13		
14	15	Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23		25 15: FAITHFUL	26 & JUST - CRO	MWELL, CT		
28	29	30						

July

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1	2	GOOD FRIDAY Office closed	INDEPENDENCE DAY
5	6	Open Prayer Ministry CHM campus: 1:30 pm Generational Eucharist CHM campus: 6:00 pm		9	10	11
12	13	14	15		17 LING PRAYER® LI AMPUS, JACKSON	18 EVEL 1 <i>EXPRESS</i> - VILLE, FL
19	20	Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	22	23	24	25
26	27	Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	29	30	31	

August

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	
						1	
2	3 Day of Healing Prayer on CHM campus	4 Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11 INTERN	12 S H I P P R O	100	14 A C K S O N V I RNEY TO HEALING RET LAZA AIRPORT, JACKS	REAT	
16	17	Open Prayer Ministry on CHM campus: 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm	19	20	21	22	
23 30	24	25	26		28 LING PRAYER LEV MPUS, JACKSONV	Market Committee of the	

CHM Schools, Conferences & Retreats

[SCHOOLS OF HEALING PRAYER®]

On the CHM Campus in Jacksonville, Florida unless otherwise noted

Speakers: Judith MacNutt, and team

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org

July 16-18 — Level 1 Express

August 27-29 — Level 2 Express

October 29-31 — Level 3 Express

December 10-12 — Level 4 Express

Location: Doubletree by Hilton, Jacksonville Airport

[JOURNEY TO HEALING RETREAT]

Doubletree by Hilton, Jacksonville Airport

Speakers: Judith MacNutt and team

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org

August 13-15

November 19-21

[CHM INTERNSHIP PROGRAM]

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

August 11-15

November 17-21

GNITE CONFERENCE!

Crowne Plaza Hartford-Cromwell, Cromwell, Connecticut Speakers: Judith MacNutt and R.T. Kendall; worship led by Kelanie Gloeckler

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org

June 24-27

[CAPTIVATE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE]

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

Speakers: Judith MacNutt and Graham Cooke; worship

led by Kelanie Gloeckler

Registration: online at www.christianhealingmin.org

October 1-3

[CHM IS STREAMING]

Ignite and Captivate are available for streaming. Not only can you enjoy each conference live from where you are, you will also have access to the archived teachings. Visit our website for more information and for pricing.

www.christianhealingmin.org

*Dates and schedules subject to change.

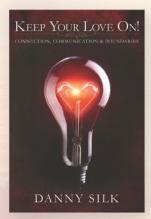
Other Conferences

SEPTEMBER 18 » ACT (Association of Christian Therapists) Conference [Orlando, FL]

Speaker: Judith MacNutt

OCTOBER 16-17 » St. George's Episcopal Church Healing Conference [Nashville, TN] Speaker: Judith MacNutt

CHM BOOKSTORE

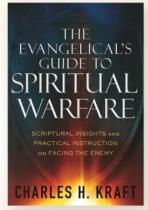


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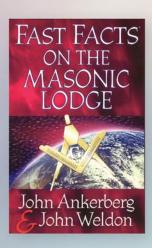
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» by Charles H. Kraft

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- Recognize the everyday battles taking place around you.
- Learn what demons really are and what they actually do.
- Understand the rules for engaging the enemy.
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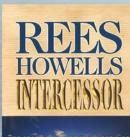


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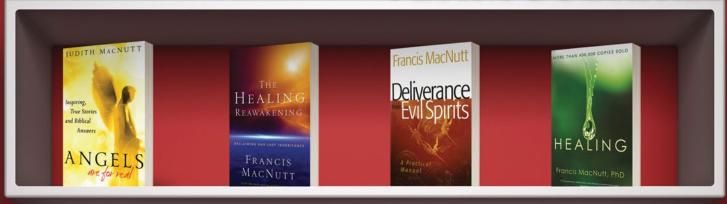
BEFORE YOU GET HERE

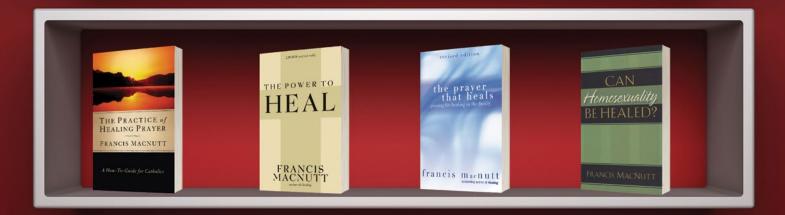
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B467 » \$15.00

S467 (SPANISH)

R467 (RUSSIAN)

What is a Sick Person To Do?....cont. from page 17

A wise friend said that this was a time when we should be asking others to carry us in prayer. So every time I was in a group of Christian friends, I humbly asked them to lay hands on me and pray for my healing. Each Sunday night before I went to chemo on Monday, we had 6-10 people come to our house to pray. We journeyed to my husband Ken's home church for prayer. On Thanksgiving, after the dishes were cleared, everyone in the room gathered around me to pray. In my own church, I was down front after every Sunday service seeking prayer. I learned to be open to many types of prayer: with words and silence, friends singing over me, friends reading Scripture over me, long and short, soft and loud, with or without touch and the anointing of oil, speaking with tongues, wise words and simple requests. I am convinced that God hears all prayers and that the Holy Spirit transforms our groaning and intercedes for us as only He can.

By Christmas I had only made it through 5 of the 12 prescribed rounds of chemo. People were praying, but I was desperately sick. I could barely stand, eat or think in a complete sentence. I looked like a concentration camp victim. I did not feel like praying. At just this moment another friend said, "Lee, you have so many people praying for you. But you need to seek out people with gifts of healing and have them pray over you. Healing is a gift God gives the church and you need the gift of healing. It's not just the quantity of people praying, it's the quality and giftedness of the people who pray. *Quantity and quality.*"

God began to orchestrate gifted healers to enter my life. That February, Nigel Mumford (an Episcopal priest and colleague of the MacNutts) came to a nearby church. My friends carried me to see him. I was the only person who had a private appointment with him that day. My friend Carol, who has recognizable gifts of healing, came every Friday afternoon to anoint me with oil, put her warm hands on me and pray. In May of 2013, soon after my last chemo treatment, we travelled to Jacksonville for a 3-day Journey to Healing Prayer retreat.

People frequently ask me about my experience at CHM. Usually they're expecting a flashy TV type of healing experience. The first thing I tell them is that there is no razzle-dazzle about this place. Aging buildings and an unassuming assembly. Yet people there listen, love and pray. Intensely. At CHM, a remarkable group of trained volunteers have gathered to minister and grow in their giftedness. It was such a luxury to have sisters in Christ and brothers in the Lord spend that much time praying just for me—giving up themselves to focus in the spiritual realms on my problem. My disease. My pain. My whole life.

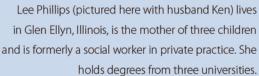
Most of my healing should have come when I finished chemo—that's what doctors expect. Doctors also expect that pancreatic cancer will come back within a few months of finishing chemo. My story is that my blood counts slowly began shifting back to normal after each visit to CHM. I've made four visits to CHM and my tumor has shrunk after each visit. Healing has not been instanteous. By now you've guessed that 2 1/2 years later I am doing really well. Normal blood counts, CT scans show no visible cancer in my liver, the scar tissue remains in my pancreas, but no evidence of an active tumor.

So what is the spiritual responsibility of a sick person? It is to ask for prayer everywhere—at home and church, from family and friends. To seek out prayer from gifted experts. To be open to all types of prayer. To keep going. To keep asking. Remember that healing is often progressive and always mysterious.

Regardless of what happens tomorrow, I have had a miracle. I am alive because people are praying for me. Soli Deo Gloria!

• • • • • • • • • •

LEE PHILLIPS







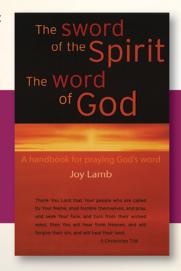
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