



Exploring Christian Healing

by John Ryeland

www.healingmission.org

LEADER'S NOTES

Session 6

What else might God be doing?:

AIM OF THIS SESSION

To look at some of the general issues we are likely to encounter as we become more involved in the ministry of Christian healing.

90 MINUTES

Introduction

Welcome and opening prayer.



Prayerful exercise



Divide everyone into groups of three to practise praying for one another again, using the model for ministry that we have been studying. One person is to receive, one to minister and the other to observe. If time permits, they can change roles.

Before they start, refresh their memory about the three emphases to focus on in turn:

- The Father's love for the person receiving prayer
- The reality of the presence of Jesus with them
- The availability of the power of the Holy Spirit



Group discussion



How did it go?

How comfortable was it to minister in this way?

When everyone has had an opportunity to share, explain that we are going to move on to look at the concept of unanswered prayer.

Ask the group to be honest about their disappointments in prayer. In the past, have they prayed but not seen the answers they wanted? If so, how did this affect them?



Study



Divide everyone into different groups of three, and encourage each group to look briefly at one of the following Bible passages:

John 17:20-21

These are the words of Jesus as he prayed. Has his prayer been answered? If not, why?



A space to meet
with the living God

2 Timothy 4:20

Is it likely that Paul had prayed for Trophimus?
Is there any hint of blame or responsibility in this statement?

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

Without discussing the nature of Paul's 'thorn in the flesh', is there any suggestion that its persistence was to do with his lack of faith?

Reconvene to talk about the implications of these passages for the Church's ministry of healing.



Following God's Agenda



Study



Ask someone to read **Mark 2:1-12** and then look at the following questions together:

- What were the friends expecting to happen?
- What might have been the reason for Jesus doing something else before bringing healing to the man's back?
- Imagine what the four friends' reaction to Jesus speaking about forgiveness might have been?



Video 6.1

Play (or screen share) Video 6.1



Study



As we continue to look at the notion of God's agenda, we are going to look at two passages from John's Gospel:

- Ask someone to read the story of Jesus healing a man who was unable to walk in **John 5:1-9**. Then ask someone else to read verse 14.

- Ask someone to read the story of Jesus healing a man who was born blind in **John 9:1-7** and then ask someone else to read verses 35-38.

Get the group to ponder what these stories reveal about the ongoing ministry of Jesus, rather than what he did as one-off events.

- How would they relate these stories to their own lives?
- What experience do they have of God working out his agenda in their lives, rather than simply doing what he was asked to do?

Final thoughts and closing prayer



- What is each person going to take away from this course?
- In what ways has God touched them?
- How will this change them?
- How will you all use what you have learned to further the ministry of healing in your church/churches?
- What will be the next step?

Encourage everyone to visit the website

www.encounterprayer.net

to find resources about this approach to prayer.

This is a reminder to send out the Notes for Participants – Session 6! Having made it to the end of the course it would be so easy to forget!