

ON THE HOUSE

FALL HEALING CLASS BEGINS SOON

Okay, you've been asking for it, so here it is: School of Healing Prayer, Level 1 begins on Thursday, October 23rd at 10 am. Call the office to register, and let Brian know if you want him to order a participant's workbook for you (not required, but nice to have).

The class, which uses new materials from Christian Healing Ministries, is 13 weeks (60-90 minutes per class), but we will take appropriate breaks for holidays. The purpose of the class, in addition to facilitating healing in our own lives, is to prepare us to minister to others who need spiritual, emotional, or physical healing.

A Thursday evening class will be offered if there is sufficient interest. Call the office to register for the day class or to request the night class.

FAITH, NOT FEAR

From an economic standpoint, we certainly appear to be living through an unprecedented financial crisis, or at least this is what the media would have us believe. The more hype, or, more appropriately, *FEAR*, that we buy into, the more TV we'll watch, and the more newspapers and magazines we'll buy to try and figure out what we should do next and where we are headed. Fear can have a gripping and paralyzing effect on us, driving us to seek answers and make decisions away from our faith.

I heard Ron Blue from Kingdom Advisors interviewed recently about the current economic crisis, and one of his primary concerns was that Christians not live their lives out of fear. He

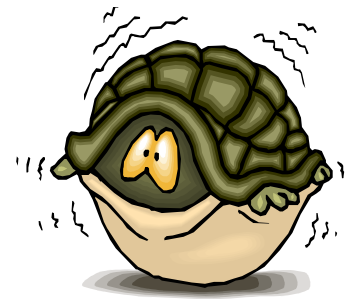
explained that while fear is a natural emotion, fear is an enemy of faith. Fear does not control us. Rather, as Believers, we can take comfort in the following scriptures:

"God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. . . . *There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear. . . .*" 1 John 4:16-18

"*Do not fear; I will help you. Do not be afraid, . . . for I myself will help you,* declares the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 41:13-14

While our economy is certainly undergoing a significant and admittedly painful correction from what I would describe as a period

BY KIM SHEEK



Does the economy have you shaking in your shell?

of excessive greed, risk and leverage through debt, is it really an unprecedented event that merits extreme panic and fear? To answer this question, let's take a brief look back at a timeline of events in modern American history (*see sidebar and story on page 2*).

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

BY IDA PAGE

The blueprint for the healing ministry, and indeed for Bethsaida House, is contained in James 5:13-18. However, James does not talk just about healing prayer here, he talks about many kinds of prayer and situations which should bring us to our knees in the presence of Almighty God. There is prayer when we are suffering (the meaning of this word appears to be suffering apart from physical illness); this would be a time we bring our own needs before God. There is the prayer of praise; we must never forget to praise God for all that He does and has done for us. Then there is the prayer of the sick. The sick (those who are incapacitated physically) are to enlist the prayers of the leaders in the Body of Christ to anoint him/her with oil in the Name of Jesus. Then there is also the prayer of confession. James lets us know that this one is crucial to receiving healing. And there is fervent (travailing) prayer--where we do not stop praying until we receive the answer. Be sure to notice that it is not the oil that heals, nor the faith of the prayers that heals, nor the fervency that heals, certainly not the elders who heal; but it is the *prayers* that open the way for God's healing to flow. Our prayers are a part of God's healing process. As Pastor Bill Johnson always says, our prayers release God's power. (*continued on page 3*)

EVENTS IN MODERN AMERICAN HISTORY

- *1929: Global Stock Market Crash, the Great Depression
- *1933: Roosevelt's New Deal, FDIC created
- *1934: SEC created
- *1941: Pearl Harbor, WWII, Post-Depression
- *1945: Hiroshima Atomic Bomb, U.N. created
- *1946: Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech
- *1948: Israel created
- *1949: NATO created
- *1950: Korean War, agricultural surpluses
- *1952: Bomb shelters
- *1957: Soviet's Sputnik & the space race
- *1960: OPEC created
- *1961: Berlin Wall
- *1962: Gas is \$0.31 per gallon, Cuban Missile Crisis, Khrushchev at the U.N., Cold War, Vietnam War, Recession
- *1963: Kennedy assassinated, Civil Rights movement
- *1964: LBJ's Great Society (poverty & racial injustice)
- *1968: MLK assassinated
- *1969: Neil Armstrong on the moon
- *1972: DJIA at 1,000, OPAEC Oil Embargo, Wage-Price controls, Watergate, 10% Prime Rate, World economic depression, and U.S. Stagflation
- *1979: Three Mile Island
- *1980: Gold at \$850 per ounce, Savings & Loan Crisis
- *1981: AIDS
- *1982: Prime Rate at 21%, Mortgage Rates at 14%, Double Digit Inflation, Gold and Silver Prices, Recession
- *1985: Decline of the dollar
- *1986: Drought takes severe toll on farmers, Willie Nelson's Farm Aid
- *1987: Black Monday in the stock market
- *1988: Global warming
- *1990: Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait
- *1991: Gulf War
- *1992: Large trade and budget deficit, recession, political uncertainty
- *1998: Farm prices slump due to large commodity surpluses, gas at \$1.19 per gallon
- *2000: Dow Jones Industrial Average peaks at 11,700 before collapsing
- *2001: 9/11, the War on Terror
- *2002: Recession, Corporate Fraud, Personal Debt, stock market and interest rate declines
- *2007: Sub-prime crisis, gas at \$4.00 per gallon

FAITH, NOT FEAR (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

Do you see the same recurring themes or patterns here that I do: Banks and Savings & Loans, Farm Prices, Gold, Housing, Mortgages, Inflation, Interest Rates, the Dollar, the Deficit, Oil Prices, Stock Market, Tax Reform, Market Reform, Recession, Geo-Political Turmoil, War, etc.? Looking back over the last 80 year period of history helps me to frame current events with a little perspective; we really have been here and done this before.

There are a few economic realities that we can rest assured of in the present "crisis" by looking back to the past: economic *uncertainty* is certain, economic prosperity is certain only in *retrospect*, economic cycles are *normative*, and the future *cannot* be predicted.¹ In other words, we have been through tumultuous economic times before, and we will go through them again. With this perspective in mind, we therefore must not allow our faith to be overcome by fear. Instead, faith overcomes fear.

Romans 1:17 tells us that, "The righteous will live by faith." Moreover, Ephesians 6:16 reminds us to "take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one." Thus, when the enemy shoots arrows of fear at us during such an economic storm (*cf.* Matthew 6:34), it is imperative that we stick to a few transcendent Biblical principles of financial success:²

- Spend less than you earn (Proverbs 13:11)
- Avoid the use of debt (Proverbs 22:7)
- Build flexibility through liquidity (Proverbs 6:6-8)
- Set long-term goals (Philippians 3:14)

From an investment perspective, Biblical principles encourage us to take the following approach:³

- Preservation and steady growth of capital (vs. getting rich quick and speculating – Prov. 28:20 and Prov. 31:16)
- Long-term time horizon (vs. a short-term time horizon – Luke 14:28 and Gen. 41:28-40)
- Saving and investing first (vs. spending and consuming first – Ecc. 5:13-14; Prov. 24:27; and Luke 12:18-21)
- Time is a tool (vs. time is an enemy – Prov. 6:6 and Prov. 28:22)
- Cycles are inevitable (vs. upward trend hopeful – 2 Pet. 3:4)
- Diversification strategy and professional management (vs. timing strategy and do it yourself – Ecc. 11:1-2; Matt. 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27; and Prov. 19:20).

If we have a financial and investment plan built upon these Biblical principles, then we do not need to panic or fear when our economy cycles through another normal correction like we are experiencing today, no matter the severity. Our hope and trust are in God, not in our assets, not in our investments, and certainly not in the politicians trying to "rescue" us from the current "crisis."

Rather, we can trust that we have made good decisions to begin with and stick with our plan, or, more appropriately, God's plan. We do not have to let media-induced fear and panic drive us into making decisions inconsistent with our plan, because the plan is built upon Biblical principles and foundations that have survived throughout time. Rest assured: God is love and His perfect love drives out fear!

Amen.

—footnotes 1,2,3, reference Kingdom Advisor Training Materials

THE PRAYER OF FAITH (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

Though faith does not heal, it is a necessary component in healing prayer. What do we mean by “the prayer of faith?” Doesn’t faith mean *believing in* God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Yes, for sure it does. Yet the prayer of faith takes it a step further: It means *believing* God. Knowing that what He has promised, He desires to do. The Bible is filled with God’s promises to hear and answer our prayers. First, we must know what He has promised. Then we must trust Him completely to fulfill His promises, never doubting! Then we wait *expectantly*, knowing the answer is coming.

My granddaughter, Sara Catherine, taught me a lesson about waiting expectantly when she was in kindergarten. This particular day was “Grandparents’ Day” at her school. She was so excited that I was coming to her classroom. She *asked* me to come, and I *promised* her I would be there. She *trusted* me completely. (She hadn’t yet figured out how imperfect I am.) She knew I would be there, but she didn’t know when. So, she *waited*—standing, staring at the door, with arms folded. How long she had been there, I don’t know. But when I opened the door, she began jumping up and down and clapping her hands in pure ecstasy. You see, she asked me to come, the promise was given, she trusted the one who promised, and she waited and watched until the promise was fulfilled. That is exactly how we should pray. We ask, we have His promise, we trust the One who promised, and we wait and watch. When the door opens, we jump up and down and clap our hands and praise Him! Believe me, we have had much to jump up and down about at Bethsaida House since we began this prayer ministry four years ago.

This Fall, Bethsaida House will be offering classes on Healing Prayer. We hope many of you will want to go deeper in this discipline. Many of you reading this have already participated in classes offered at Bethsaida House over the years. Maybe now is a good time for a “refresher course.” Some of you have been in our intercessory prayer groups and want to know how to pray with the sick more effectively. Still others of you desire a healing prayer ministry in your church. Or perhaps you just want to see what the Bible has to say about healing. We believe that God desires us to be whole, just as He desires us to be saved. We also know that he calls on us to pray for “His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.” We hope many will join us as we enrich our own lives as we minister to others.

Whether or not you join the class on healing prayer, learn from Sara Catherine to ask, trust, wait, and rejoice. I failed to mention how much I enjoyed being in that classroom with my precious granddaughter. That gave me a better understanding of how much God enjoys answering our prayers.

“So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11:24)

YARD SALE NETS \$600—ENOUGH TO BUY TRAINING MATERIALS FOR THE HOUSE

You know, yard sales are fun. We’ve had four here at Bethsaida House since I’ve been on board, and every time the fun outweighs the hard work.

The yard sale in August had a particular purpose: To raise money to purchase updated training materials. As is our good fortune, we had some incredible donors this time around. I don’t know that we’ve ever had so much stuff in such a small space. When the day of the

sale came, it seemed like we just opened the front door and everything poured out into the parking lot!

With the proceeds, we were able to purchase the School of Healing Prayer DVD series for Level One and Two from Christian Healing Ministries. Each level is made up of 13 individual classes taught by Francis or Judith MacNutt. We’ve been fans of the MacNutt’s material for quite some time. Francis has been a

leader in the healing ministry for decades, and Judith really adds to the depth of the training materials. The best word to describe their materials is “solid.”

We are particularly excited about the Level Two material, which we will introduce as a class after the completion of the Level One series (see article on Page 1). Level Two tackles specific wounds, such as generational healing, sexual abuse, healing in marriage,

divorce, suffering, depression, deliverance, and healing of abortion and miscarriage.

These are the issues that we deal with daily at Bethsaida House, both as intercessors and in private appointments. Thanks to those who participated in our yard sale, we have more resources to call upon as we minister to those in need. Thank you for your support and encouragement. You are the best!



We're all hoping to find the "good soil."

TESTING THE SOIL

No doubt you've been approached by most every non-profit and for-profit business by now, hoping for a donation or purchase since times are tight. As the Director of Bethsaida House, I can relate to the need, but the asking part is difficult; I don't want to make this time more stressful than it already is.

What I ask is that you measure our request for support like you would any other: Test the soil. Obviously

you and I want to sow into fertile soil (Mark 4:3-20). I believe the people who come to Bethsaida House have proven to be "good soil." Most are ready to go deeper, ready to accept wholeness as Jesus defines it, not as the world does. Most are ready for the freedom and healing that our Lord gives.

And because they're good soil, we see a harvest far greater than the seed sown. It's one of those God things

that is unexplainable to us. We're grateful to be involved, but it is God who is at work here and not us.

So on behalf of those who come here, those who volunteer, and the board, thank you for even *considering* sowing into the ministry of Bethsaida House. I pray that you'll find us to be good stewards of that with which the Lord has entrusted us. And, as always, we would love to have you join us anytime! Blessings.

BY BRIAN HITE

