



WEEKLY STUDY

WEEK 1

On the first Sunday after Easter, Pastor Jacob began a new series on our common and collective need for healing. We all need healing of some kind, and Jesus demonstrated how keenly aware he was of those needs around him. The starting place for this healing is recognizing your need and reaching out to the One who can heal. May your study and prayers lead you to boldly seek the healing Jesus desires for you and for those around you.

Peace of Christ,
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from daily readings as well as the additional questions at the bottom of this guide. If you would like to get connected visit prov.church/smallgroups.

Find a time each day to read the passage of scripture and follow the daily prayer prompt.

DAILY STUDY

MONDAY: LUKE 6.1-5 (ESV)

On a Sabbath, while he was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked and ate some heads of grain, rubbing them in their hands.² But some of the Pharisees said, “Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?”³ And Jesus answered them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him:⁴ how he entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those with him?”⁵ And he said to them, “The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.”

- As you consider this passage from Luke 6, take a moment to look at [1 Samuel 21.6](#). This is the story referenced by Jesus when he demonstrated that God’s mission is bigger than rules and customs. What Jesus is about is bigger than religion, he’s about healing and changing the world by ushering in the Kingdom of God. Sometimes it is easier for us to stick to the status quo instead of looking for God’s direction. **How do Jesus’ words and actions reflect a sense of urgency? Why do you think he retold this story about David?**
- *God, I want to live with my eyes on the Kingdom that Jesus was always pointing to. Guard me from placing my confidence in anything else. Amen.*

TUESDAY: LUKE 6.6-11 (ESV)

⁶ On another Sabbath, he entered the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was withered. ⁷ And the scribes and the Pharisees watched him, to see whether he would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find a reason to accuse him. ⁸ But he knew their thoughts, and he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come and stand here." And he rose and stood there. ⁹ And Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to destroy it?" ¹⁰ And after looking around at them all he said to him, "Stretch out your hand." And he did so, and his hand was restored. ¹¹ But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

- Jesus clearly had a reputation by now. He was consistently compassionate no matter what day of the week it was. Notice how his question in vs 9 went unanswered. You might be able to imagine the scribes and Pharisees searching for an answer that didn't make them appear to lack compassion. Yet as a man is healed right in front of them, their response was to figure out a way to take care of the problem of Jesus. We've all been through the internal wrestling of seeing the healing of a seemingly undeserving person. But that wasn't the question here. The character of the man with the withered hand wasn't called into question, Jesus' character was. Sometimes even healing can be a threat. **Are there any religious or cultural customs that might prevent you from celebrating healing?**
- *Holy God, I love you and marvel at your ability to heal. Allow me to surrender to you all that might be holding me back. I too have been the focus of your great compassion. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY: JEREMIAH 30.17 (NIV)

*But I will restore you to health
and heal your wounds,'
declares the Lord,
'because you are called an outcast,
Zion for whom no one cares.'*

- Through the prophet Jeremiah, God speaks to the entire nation of Israel. God desires a collective healing for the people. This section of Jeremiah is referred to as the Book of Comfort because it offers a vision of hope for the future. God was on their side even when the whole world seemed to be against them. In seasons of suffering and uncertainty, we can wonder if the whole world is against us. **Everything seems to be going wrong at once. But God can bring an entire nation back into the land that was taken from them and can heal their wounds. What can God do for you?**
- *God, I come to you for the healing only you can provide. Heal my wounds and restore my health, both physically and spiritually. Amen.*

THURSDAY: 2 CHRONICLES 7.14 (NIV)

...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

- God has taken up residence and the Ark of the Covenant (seen as a sign of God's presence) was brought in during the dedication of Solomon's temple. God reassures Solomon that God desires for his people to reside in Jerusalem and that he wants to heal their broken relationship as well as

their land. Notice how the seeking of God's face and repentance from God's people lead to a land that is healed. **In what ways is our land in need of healing? How might we be a part of seeking God's face and repentance?**

- *God, thank you for your grace and steadfast love that sustains us even as we have turned away from your way. May we have hearts of repentance that amplify our voices to your ear. Amen.*

FRIDAY: PSALM 107:19-22 (NIV)

*Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress.*

²⁰ *He sent out his word and healed them;
he rescued them from the grave.*

²¹ *Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for mankind.*

²² *Let them sacrifice thank offerings
and tell of his works with songs of joy.*

- The theme of Psalm 107 is God's intervention in our times of trouble and in answer to prayer. We cry out to the Lord in our trouble, God sends his word and rescues us. Isn't this the heart of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Becoming aware of our need for God is the best place to be and the beginning of our healing. **In what ways do you find yourself crying out to God in times of great distress?**
- *God, I call out to you. I know that you have rescued me from the grave, and so I give thanks for your unfailing love today. Amen.*

SATURDAY: ACTS 9:32-35 (NIV)

As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the Lord's people who lived in Lydda. ³³ There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years. ³⁴ "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat." Immediately Aeneas got up. ³⁵ All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

- God's healing works through the disciples of Jesus. As Peter's ministry began to grow, healing began to take place—always in the name of Jesus Christ. As people heard about the healing of Aeneas they responded and turned to the Lord. Whole regions were impacted by the miraculous healing that God was working. Following this healing, Peter was involved in the raising from the dead of another disciple named Tabitha. Healing and belief seems to beget more healing and belief. **Can you imagine how such a movement would impact the community where you live?**
- *Father God, you are the great healer. You have shown us that healing is possible through your son Jesus Christ. Let us see your healing power today that others might be healed. Amen.*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Pastor Jacob shared the Providence saying, "I believe in the healing power of Jesus Christ." I remember the first week that this became a regular part of our vernacular. It was a Sunday morning at West Wilson Middle School where we were meeting as the current church building was being built. As a church, we have seen much healing in the years since. **Where have you seen the healing power of Jesus Christ in your life or the lives of those around you?**