

## JESUS' HEALING POWER

Can Jesus heal us today in the way He healed when He walked the earth?

A speaker I recently heard said that “talking about Jesus starts with gratitude and amazement.” Gratitude for what He did for us and amazement about how He can heal . . . and He still *can* heal, even today. As we discuss this topic today, let's keep this picture of Jesus in mind.

Although there have been many reports of total healings, even today, I believe that in this day and age Jesus doesn't usually heal in one fell swoop. It's done bit by bit as we trust and obey, as we persistently ask for His help.

Often healing means simply recognizing Christ's love and sensing it within you. It might mean sharing that love with others. It might mean being so absorbed by Christ's love that you can't help showing it to others – being so absorbed by it that our own pain lessens.

The speaker touched on some of these things. As we sang the last song, I couldn't help being carried away with the moment. I noticed a young woman I knew in the pew in front of me, obviously in some emotional distress. I leaned over and hugged her gently, telling her I loved her. I felt her suffering and, feeling God's spirit within me, I wanted to comfort her. In doing so I felt myself absorb some of her pain. I felt Jesus within me and it helped me feel whole.

As God comforts us, we can comfort others “with the same comfort God has shown us.”

As I said, so much of our healing comes as the result of love – the love we receive, but I think, just as much by the love we give.

What healings have you experienced?

- Times of a little less pain?
- A glimmer of light shining in the darkness?
- Refreshment of some kind now and then?
- The comfort of a hug from a friend?
- Moments of peace?
- A touch of courage?
- A strengthening of the spirit?

Jesus can heal because, in love and with compassion, He understands our pain. And can we not be agents for him, as his apostles were, bringing healing on His behalf? After all, each of us knows pain.

- How can we help bring Christ's healing power to others? What could we personally, with the help of God's spirit, do?
- Through that, how can we ourselves find healing too?

As we said at the beginning, be persistent in asking Jesus for healing in whatever ways He chooses to give it to you.