

— Love Declared • Love Demonstrated —

Part 2 - Sent to Heal

Love Declared - Love Demonstrated

We are called individually to love lost people, build relationships with them, bring a demonstration of the Kingdom of God's power at work and when the opportunity presents itself, share a bold witness for Christ and invite them to know more.

The Bigger Picture

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth for the very purpose of us to experience His love. God made us to love God and love each other.

Unfortunately we have all eaten of the forbidden fruit, tried to play God and have missed the whole point we were made for – an intimate and eternal relationship with God our maker where we might experience His love.

The result is a broken world – a broken world with broken people suffering and broken relationship with God.

Jesus entered into the broken mess. God's own Son, perfect in every way, stood in for all our failures. He took the blame, absorbed evil in love and died to cover our sin.

Our admission of failure and our turning to Jesus to trust that He is the solution for healing our brokenness starts a whole new life in Him.

Healing and Wholeness

Our God is a God of restoration, wholeness and healing. The process of healing starts in our own lives from the inside out.

Sent to Heal

We go into the world that is broken, in the power of Holy Spirit to bring healing to a hurting world and hurting people. Love Declared – Love Demonstrated!

We partner with God to restore relationships, show love, to heal factions, hearts and human bodies. We are sent to heal.

Physical Healing

Healing can come in all sorts of ways that have to do with this idea of wholeness; mind, spirit and body.

- + Emotional healing
- + Spiritual healing
- + Physical healing

Why just talk about physical healing?

1. It's in God's nature to heal.
2. It's a great entry for people to experience God's love demonstrated and provides opportunity for us to declare the source of this healing power.
3. Jesus demonstrated that it was a part of the Kingdom of Heaven breaking in.
4. Our church has an anointing for healing.

God's the Healer

God reveals himself as Jehovah-Rapha, "the LORD who heals you." (Exodus 15:26).

Jesus Healed Many

Jesus' ministry was marked by healing.

- + Luke 4:18-19
- + Luke 7:21-22
- + Matthew 9:35
- + John 21:25
- + Acts 10:38

You are Sent to Heal

Jesus very clearly stated that we as believers are commissioned to heal the sick. He taught and commanded His disciples to do so, and commanded them to pass it on to all believers.

- + Mark 6:7, 12-13
- + Matthew 28:19-20
- + John 14:12-14
- + Acts 3:12, 16

Not All are Healed

We are in a battle for the kingdom of heaven to come to earth and there is real opposition to the revealed will of God taking place for the sake of His glory. It is so important that we don't harbour bitterness or anger from when we have felt disappointment. We must press on without blaming ourselves or the faith of those we minister to.

We only get angry when we take on a responsibility that isn't ours! We firstly minister in love and remember that God is good.

One thing we do know, more people are healed the more we pray for healing!

Healing Through Jesus' Sacrifice

There are several passages that make it clear to us that there is healing in the blood, the atonement of Jesus.

- + Isaiah 53:4-5.
- + Matthew 8:16-17
- + 1 Peter 2:24
- + Acts 4:10

Our desire is that healing becomes a regular practice of how we demonstrate God's love.

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the importance of the role the church plays in being God's agents of healing, restoring and renewing in the world.
2. Most people can embrace that God brings healing to our minds and spirits through the forgiveness of our sin and the renewing of our minds. What do you think are the main barriers to believing or moving in the area of physical healing?
3. Reflect on the following passages: Mark 6:7, 12-13; Matthew 28:19-20; John 14:12-14; Acts 3:12, 16. Does this inspire you to demonstrate love through healing? Why or why not?
4. Read Psalm 103:2-3. Why is it easier to believe in the forgiveness of our sins and not for our healing? How have you previously dealt with disappointment in not seeing healing?
5. Meditate on Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17 and 1 Peter 2:24. Stop and give thanks for Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Thank him not only for the forgiveness of your sin but the availability for healing also.
6. Spend time praying for the sick and for the boldness in faith to demonstrate God's love through healing.