

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Great Expectations
Part 2: “Expect God to Heal”
Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group’s goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

“...And God granted his request”

“your level of expectation determines the level of your life!”

[Psalm 5:3]

*In the morning, LORD, you will hear my voice;
in the morning I will lay my requests before you
and wait expectantly.*

[Matthew 9:35-36]

*Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And **he healed every kind of disease and illness**. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

Why do we expect healing?

1. We are clearly instructed in the New Testament to pray for the sick

[James 5:14-15]

*Are any of you sick? You should call for the leaders of the church to pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. Such a **prayer offered in faith will heal the sick**, and the Lord will make you well.*

2. Jesus said his disciples (*that's us*) would pray for the sick and see results

[Mark 16:17-18]

*“And these signs will **accompany those who believe**: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues.....*

*“...they will **place their hands on sick people**, and they will get well.”*

3. We are instructed to desire the gifts of the spirit and operate in them

[1 Corinthians 14:1]

*Follow the way of love and **eagerly desire the gifts** of the Spirit.*

[1 Corinthians 12:31]

So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.

4. There is an increase of Holy Spirit activity in the earth and in our church in these days!

[Zechariah 10:1]

*Ask the LORD for rain
In the time of the latter rain.*

5. Our faith for healing is increasing as we receive the Word

[Matthew 9:2]

*Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. **When Jesus saw their faith**, he said to the man, **“Take heart, son;***

[Matthew 9:22]

*Jesus turned and saw her. **“Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.”** And the woman was healed at that moment.*

[Matthew 9:28-29]

*When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, **“Do you believe that I am able to do this?”***

“Yes, Lord,” they replied.

*Then he touched their eyes and said, **“According to your faith let it be done to you”**; and their sight was restored.*

“Faith for Healing, Wisdom for Health” – Dr. Wendell Smith

[Job 23:9-11]

*When he is at work in the north, I do not see him;
when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him.
But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tested me, **I will come forth as gold.***

*For I have stayed on God's paths;
I have followed his ways and not turned aside.*

6. Hebrews 13:8

7. Jesus paid the full price for our healing in the atonement

[Matthew 18:17]

"He took our sicknesses and removed our diseases."

[1 Peter 2:24]

*He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. **By his wounds you are healed.***

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. On a scale of 1 to 10, what's your level of expectation been like this past week?**
- 2. What things generally move or motivate you to action?**
- 3. Which of the seven reasons that we should expect healing resonates with you the most? Which is most challenging to you?**
- 4. In 1 Corinthians 14, it says to eagerly desire the greatest (or most helpful gifts). How do we know what those are in a particular season or situation?**
- 5. What are some factors that increase our faith?**
- 6. Pray for each other's "faith capacity" to expand and your influence to increase.**