

# Love Thy Neighbor in Service

## The Healing Power of Faith

Your faith has healed you. Jesus makes that statement many times when he is healing people in the Bible. Initially I went right past the statement without even noticing. Upon subsequent readings the strangeness of the statement struck me. Why in the world would Jesus say,

*"Your faith has healed you."*  
(Mathew 9:22 NIV)

In the simplest human terms, when you help someone we always say or think I helped that person. Additionally, Jesus is the son of the Father, and They have the power. The concept that a person's faith can make them well simply did not make sense. The idea however came to life in the ministry over the past 4-5 years.

Initially, we simply tried to help people with stuff, figuring we could befriend them and subsequently tell them about Jesus. The problem was the method did not seem to work well. The actions were useful

but had nothing behind them. There was no reason to change any of the underlying thought and subsequent lifestyle for those we served.

However, people would periodically leave an encounter with us, get into one of the programs

based upon faith and a life would be altered. As a result we changed our direction and made the focus Jesus, the Father and the Holy Spirit. That was the beginning of an individuals own faith making them well.

As many of you know, our program is to be in the Bible daily, pray daily, work on the relationships the Father has put in your life, be open to witnessing opportunities for Jesus Christ, give the first percentage of your income to the Lord, be in volunteer service weekly for the Father and, finally, be in a Christian community (Church, Sunday school & Bible study group).

The program is simply the things that Jesus calls each one of us to do in His Word (Bible). Over time an extremely odd thing began to occur. The individuals that worked at the program the most consistently began to have dramatically changed and improved lives. Additionally, those people who worked their faith consistently would get well over time, but if they then put it back down their old life style would come roaring back to destroy them again.

Jesus has a parable about this very occurrence. "When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the



### Transformed By Faith

first." (Mathew 12:43 NIV).

From these events it became incredibly apparent that it was the individuals own faith that was making them well. The larger a persons faith the more willing they were to consistently work on a relationship with Jesus and the Father. The results have been and continue to be amazing to watch as life after life is transformed.

However, as faith fades the activity toward the Father falters and lives fall back apart. Anyone who is honest and has been on this path knows this to be true. Problems of an incredibly wide array (relational, drug or alcohol abuse, physical abuse, etc.) can all be solved if the individuals involved will all work on their faith. Often the change of a single individual in a family or group of people can have a huge impact on everyone if that individual has worked hard on their faith. Hard work in faith is really only the belief that Jesus and the Father can actually have some effect on the problem or problems an individual is facing.

My own personal journey started with prayer, Bible study and turning to the Father being the last resort in almost any

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### Love Thy Neighbor Program Services

Christian Counseling

Telephone Resource Services

Shelter

Transportation

Food

Emergency Cash Assistance

**Ask how you can help!**

**Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Matthew 22:39**

**Love Thy Neighbor In Service**

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We're on the Web!

[www.lovetheynighborinservice.org](http://www.lovetheynighborinservice.org)



**How can you help?**

We need your prayers! It is the most important thing you can do for the ministry.

*"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."  
(James 5:16 NIV)*

LTN is committed to spreading the Gospel by Christ's example to "love thy neighbor as thyself." Matthew 22:39. To this end, LTN has designed programs with the purpose of helping clients build a relationship of faith in God, regain their dignity and eventually, regain their self-sufficiency. Contact us to learn more about the services and programs.

*Love Thy Neighbor In Service is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation (IRS#17053159005021). Gifts are tax deductible in accordance with tax law.*

**How About You?**

now as it was the day He made it.

*"Your faith has healed you."*

We are getting ready to have the Easter dinner. One Tree Hill (Pat Lloyd & company) will be playing providing excellent music. Pat has a truly moving life story. The dinner is on Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

As always the Lord will be there. "For where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them." (NIV Mathew 18:20) I hope you can attend. Everyone is welcome, and the dinner is free. Come join us, and enjoy the fellowship. Please let us know if you will be attending 770-572-6992 (my cell) 404-577-3152 (ministry line).

As in the past the dinner will be at Techwood Baptist. The building is located at the corner of Centennial Olympic Park

Boulevard and Parker Street in downtown. Come south either on I-85 or I-75 into the heart of town. Get off at Williams Street. (Exit after North Avenue, North Avenue is the Varsity and Ga. Tech exit).

Take the first right from Williams Street to Ivan Allen, Jr. Boulevard (previously Alexander Street). First light, turn right on Centennial Olympic Park Boulevard.

Techwood Baptist is third building on left. Park on street. Techwood Baptist is next door to the police station. If you have trouble finding simply call my cell phone (770) 572-6992.

**John Chapman, Jr.**

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situation. Now that direction tends to be the first.

- Do you have a seemingly insurmountable problem that has not or does not seem to be able to be fixed?
- Have you even thought of taking it to Jesus and the Father?
- Have you considered how you personally may be feeding into the problem by your own actions?

If you take the time to seek the Father through Jesus you will be amazed what will happen with an array of both earthly and eternal problems you face. However, you must first have the smallest of faith that it is even possible. The statement Jesus originally made is as true