

*Acts 19:6*  
6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied

*Matthew 10:8*  
Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.


Laying on of hands demonstrates God’s free nature and it is a free gift. It demonstrates the power of God, it ministers miracles. Laying on of hands works when there is almost no faith. So, when we go out to preach, we are demonstrating what is in the free nature of the gospel that we preach. Impar-tation happens via the laying on of hands. Via the ministry of the laying on of hands, supernatural enabling can be imparted.

**HOW DOES LAYING ON OF HANDS WORK?**

Laying on of hands is given to bless freely. It makes the things of the spirit available the more. A minister of the gospel can lay hands for the ability to function even in the grace he is not functioning in. When hands are being laid on people, there is a stirring to prophecy. Beyond just getting people filled with the holy ghost, hands can be laid hands on them to function better in the things of the spirit. Laying on of hands is for ordination, ministering to the sick, and blessing people. Laying on of hands bridges the gap, ministers strength and revelation. It can bring awareness of the call of ministry. Hands can be laid for stability. The believer's hand is for ministry and for the work of the gospel. Learn to get people’s life better via your hands, learn to cast out sickness via your hands because your hands are a ministering tool and vital equipment.

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THE BELIEVER’S  
HAND IN MINISTRY

One thing about the believer is that information is very vital and key to the believer. Just the same way knowledge is power, that is the same way information is also power.

**Mark 16:16-20**

*16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*

*17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;*

*18 they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.*

*19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.*

*20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.*

Faith in the gospel centers on believing in the resurrection of Christ. The power we have in Him can be communicated through the laying on of hands, as anyone who believes can “lay hands.” One notable aspect of Jesus’ ministry is that He never focused solely on Himself. The disciples of Jesus also did ministry. Jesus wasted no time, He immediately called His disciples and sent them out to preach. Therefore, when a believer participates in evangelism and discipleship, it brings significant responsibilities and opportunities for growth.

**WHAT CAN LAYING ON OF HANDS DO?**

The ministry of laying on of hands is one of the most powerful and most solemn moments in the Christian meeting. God cannot do anything on the earth except through men. Throughout the scriptures whenever God wants to do something he uses men. The workings of the spirit can be done through your hands, things can be stirred up through your hands. Hence, when the man of God lays his hands to bless, it is as though God himself is touching you. His touch is God’s touch and tangible power is released and often times people fall under the power of God.

These times are not to be joked with, they are to be revered.

**Matthew 17:16**

*And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.*

When people are engaged in the work of ministry you are able to see the template of their growth. If this case had not happened, we won’t be able to see the explanation of Jesus on casting out the devil. The ministry of Jesus is preaching, teaching, and ministering to the needs of the people by the spirit. As believers, we are to deal with the operation of the devil. Your hands are part of the great commission. Every believer has the ministry of the laying on of hands.

That is why he said in **Mark 16:18**

*they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.*

The very moment you get born again, your hands cease to be natural. It became a tool for the gospel, it became an assignment in the great commission, and a tool God will use to wrought miracles. Your hands are a vital htool for the gospel. Every believer as a result of the great commission has the ministry of the laying on of hands.

**“You have the ministry of the laying on of hands”**

**LET’S TRACE LAYING ON OF HANDS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT;**

**1. Joseph laid hands on Ephraim and Manasseh to bless them. So, hands were used to bless them.**

**Genesis 48:10-14**

*10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near unto him; and he kissed them, and embraced them.*

*11 And Israel said unto Joseph, I had not thought to see thy face: and, lo, God hath shewed me also thy seed.*

*12 And Joseph brought them out from between his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth.*

*13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near unto him.*

*14 And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger; and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the first-born.*

**2. Moses laid his hands upon Joshua for ordination. You can lay hands on someone for ordination and appointment into an office.**

**Number 27:18**

*And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;*

This resulted in Joshua being full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses laid his hands upon him. Many at times, when hands are being laid that way it accompanies a prophecy or an ordination.

**Deuteronomy 34:9**

*And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.*

**3. They laid hands on the offerings before they offered the sacrifice.**

**Leviticus 1:4**

*And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.*

**Leviticus 3:2**

*And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar roundabout.*

**Leviticus 4:15**

*And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands upon the head of the bullock before the LORD: and the bullock shall be killed before the LORD.*

**Leviticus 16:21**

*and Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness.*

The doctrine of the laying on of hands has always been a practice in the old testament. Laying of hands is not ceremonial, it is a ministry.

**LET’S SEE JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

**1. Jesus laid hands to bless**

Jesus laid his hands to bless, and as he did so, He spoke words. Jesus laid his hands a lot and as believers, when you lay hands, you can speak words. See some examples.

**Matthew 19:13-15**

*13 Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them.*

*14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.*

*15 And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence.*

**Mark 10:13-16**

*13 And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.*

*14 But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.*

*15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.*

*16 And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.*

**Luke 24:50-51**

*50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.*

*51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.*

**2. Jesus also laid hands to heal the sick**

**Luke 4:40**

*Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.*

He laid his hands and healed them all. If nothing will work, laying on of hands will work. One thing that hinders receiving the laying on of hands is lack of honor.

**Mark 6:4**

*But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.*

Jesus couldn’t perform many mighty miracles in His hometown, yet He still laid hands on the people. A true test of honor arises in the face of familiarity. When Jesus returned to His hometown, the people’s familiarity with Him caused them to lack honor.

However, knowing someone personally should deepen your honor for them, especially if they are a servant of God. The closer you are to a man of God, the more honor you should give, recognizing him as God’s vessel. Failing to honor him indicates a lack of spiritual insight. As you draw closer to someone God is using, it’s crucial to understand spiritual matters and the grace upon their life. As a Christian, you must be both spiritually and intellectually sharp. Overfamiliarity often leads to dishonor and disbelief in the grace of God upon someone’s life. When you honor others, it shows spiritual wisdom; dishonor, on the other hand, reflects a lack of understanding of spiritual reality.

**Mark 6:5**

*And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.*

If nothing will work, laying on of hands will work. In that dishonorable state, nobody was ready to receive yet he laid hands and it still worked. So, laying on of hands is vital.

**Luke 13:13**

*And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.*

*Jesus laid his hands on her.*

**Matthew 8:3**

*And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.*

**Matthew 8:14-15**

*14 And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.*

*15 And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them.*

*Laying on of hands does not mean you have to touch the person’s head. Jesus touched her hands and the fever left her.*

**3. Jesus laid hands on children.**

**Matthew 19:13-15**

*13 Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them.*

*14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.*

*15 And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence.*

**Paul also laid hands.**

**Acts 28:8**

And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.

**Peter and John also laid hands**

**Acts 3:2-7**

*2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;*

*3 who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.*

*4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.*

*5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.*

*6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.*

*7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.*

They took him by the right hands, that is they touched him. Jesus laid hands, Paul laid hands and the disciples also laid hands.

**Your hands are not ordinary, your two hands are for ministry and for the gospel**

**1. Hands can be laid to ordain people and commission them for the work of ministry.**

**Acts 6:6**

*whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.*

**2. Hands can be laid to communicate spiritual realities**

**Acts 8:17**

*Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.*

**Romans 1:11-12**

*11 For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;*

*12 that is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.*

**3. By the laying on of hands, it can spark up tongues, prophecy, and the sick being healed.**