



THE HANDIWORK OF GOD

How believers can use their authority in Jesus Christ to bring healing in His name

BY RENÉE BRANSON

t had to be God who sent this Texas girl to Puvirnituq, Quebec, Canada, one February. In that northern winter wonderland, the thermometer showed minus 70 degrees Fahrenheit! I was with the Inuits, an indigenous group known as "the people of the North." As I ministered in the Spirit-filled conference they hosted, God moved in a powerful way.

I watched as a small, frail woman left the prayer line and gingerly walked over to me. In short breaths, she explained that she had had tuberculosis twice, and her lungs were riddled with holes. She had made her way to the meeting with great effort and was not about to leave without her miracle.

"I have already been to the altar for prayer, but I know God has a spare-parts room in heaven, and I want my two new lungs tonight!" she said.

It was a sound of faith I hadn't heard in years! She had that now kind of expectant faith that was not going to be denied.

I looked straight into her fiery eyes and quickly got into agreement.

"You know what?" I said. "God does

have a spare-parts room in heaven, and you can have your two new lungs tonight!"

I reached my arms around her back and firmly placed my hands on the area where her lungs were.

"Father, in the name of Jesus and by the power of Your Holy Spirit, I speak two new lungs into my sister's body," I declared. "I say, 'Two new lungs, be now in Jesus' name!"

The woman fell backward to the floor under a heavy anointing of the Holy Spirit. From her waist to her collar bone, her body moved as God performed a divine surgery. I nudged the pastors to my right and left and said, "Look! This lady is receiving new lungs!" For 15 minutes, we watched in amazement as the Great Physician, the Great I AM, the Creator of the universe, Jesus Himself, removed her disease-ridden lungs and replaced them with new, life-filled, healthy lungs.

We helped the woman to her feet, and she smiled a big, joy-filled smile as she took her first deep breath in years. She made her way to the platform and asked the pastor if she could share her testimony. "Look, people! I can breathe!" she said. To demonstrate, she took a big, deep, long breath as she held the microphone close to her mouth, the sound filling the room as her new lungs filled with air.

The people all knew her and began to rejoice with her. The musicians began playing to close the service, and I watched in awe as the woman began to dance. She danced and she danced. She danced and she danced. And then she danced some more!

She danced for 30 minutes with all her might, worshipping the true and living God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—until she gently dove face down toward the carpet, sprawled out, lying under the power of our mighty God. The miracle was not medically documented that day, but it surely was documented in heaven!

God the Creator had created the fruit of our lips that evening as we called upon His name. The following day, the woman was still dancing. She danced all day long, every time the musicians picked up their instruments to worship God in the great congregation.

Hebrews 13:8 declares that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today,

and forever"! He is the same Jesus who walked the shores of Galilee, healed the sick, opened blind eyes and deaf ears, and delivered the oppressed with His own declarations of faith: "Be healed!" "Be whole!" "Be opened!" "Be loosed!" Jesus—the great I AM, the Supreme Being, the sovereign Lord, the resurrected Savior—used His words to create whatever people needed to be able to see, hear, be made whole and be set free by His simple command.

In his Gospel, Matthew records his witness of Jesus doing the works of His Father: "Jesus departed from there, and passed by the Sea of Galilee, and went up on a mountain and sat down there. Great crowds came to Him, having with them those who were lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others, and placed them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them, so that the crowds wondered when they saw the mute speak, the maimed made whole, the lame walk, and the blind see. And they glorified the God of Israel" (Matt. 15:29-31).

As I have ministered in over 30 countries, I have personally watched Jesus open blind eyes and deaf ears, heal incurable skin diseases, make broken bones whole, loose the tongue of the speechless, straighten curvatures of the spine, lengthen shorter arms and legs, correct misaligned limbs, give supernatural child-birth (painless childbirth), cause tumors to disappear, heal the brokenhearted, put people back in their right minds, create new body parts and much more.

Settle the Healing Question

In Mark 1:40-41, we read, "A leper came to Him, pleading with Him and kneeling before Him, saying, 'If You are willing, You can make me clean.' Then Jesus, moved with compassion, extended His hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I will. Be clean.'"

I like Mark's account of this miracle. For me, it settles the question—yes, Jesus is willing to heal! And He is moved with compassion to heal those who are sick. Matthew records that Jesus "healed them all" (Matt. 12:15). Jesus is always moved with compassion to heal all the sick, deliver the oppressed and set captives free.

Yes, but that was in Bible times, many say. "Is Jesus willing to heal today?"

In College Station, Texas, a few years ago, a young woman got into the prayer line for healing of her hands, which had open wounds on her fingers and palms. She explained that she had been under a doctor's care for some time and had tried different salves and medications, as the doctor had told her she had an incurable skin disease. I was looking into her youthful face as she shared her need, and when she said the word "incurable," a holy anger suddenly rose within me. I forcefully struck her right hand with mine, then struck her left hand with my left, all the while saying, "I smite this disease in the name of Jesus! I command it to wither and die and dry up at the root, and every trace of it be gone, in Jesus' name!"

As the woman walked away, the gift of faith was still working. All I could share with my friends driving home for two hours was, "I know that lady was healed! God healed that lady's hands! That lady was healed!" I was amazed. I knew that I knew that I knew she was healed in the name of Jesus. I didn't have to wait for the miracle to be documented. I knew beyond the shadow of a doubt that her hands were healed.

A month later, I was in Bryan, Texas, just a short distance from College Station. After I finished ministering, a young woman walked up to me and asked, "Do

She told me that something rose up inside her and she replied, "Doctor, I went to a meeting yesterday, and a woman prayed for me with such authority, I know I'm healed!" She walked out of his office, and that day her hands began to heal. When I looked at her hands just one month later, they looked brand new, with no lesions, wounds or scars!

She said she had begun to pray for others in public places in the name of Jesus, with that same authority she heard in my prayer, and now she is seeing others healed!

Use Your Authority

Many years ago in a hotel room in Corpus Christi, Texas, I asked the Lord a question: "I know it is Your will to heal, but when do You will?" He replied, "When you will. Take My name, My authority and My miracle-working power, and go do My work. I will be there to confirm My Word with signs following." I knew God was speaking to me concerning the Great Commission, because that was the subject of my sermon for the next morning's church service.

In the Great Commission, Jesus delegated to His disciples—we who believe in Him—His authority, name, miracle-working power and work to do. He said in Matthew 28:18-19, "All authority

"Jesus has delegated His authority to you. You are an ambassador for Christ."

you remember praying for a lady last month who had an incurable skin disease?" I immediately responded, "Yes! And God healed her!" She said, "I am the woman, and look, my hands are healed!"

She told me her story. Sitting at the back of that meeting one month before, the Lord had urged her to go up for prayer. Because her hands were very painful, she asked, "But Lord, what if she hits my hands?" If I had realized how painful her hands were, I would never have struck her hands like I did, but God used this action to break the power of her fear.

She explained that the next day she went to her doctor, who once again confirmed she had an incurable skin disease.

has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." Jesus has delegated His authority to you. You are an ambassador for Christ (see 2 Cor. 5:20). You represent Him and His kingdom on the earth.

In Mark 16:17-18, Jesus gave you as a believer His name and told you how to use it. "In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

In Luke 24:49, Jesus exhorted the believers, "But wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high." He was speaking of the power of the Holy Spirit, the One who does His work through you.

Jesus said in John 9:4, "I must do the works of Him who sent Me while it is day." Then in John 14:12 He said, "Truly, truly I say to you, he who believes in Me will do the works that I do also. And he will do greater works than these, because I am going to My Father." In John 20:21, Jesus once again gives the commission, "As My Father has sent Me, even so I send you." We are Jesus' disciples in the earth, and He teaches us His great plan through His command.

The next morning, I taught about Jesus delegating His authority, His name, His miracle-working power and His work to us, and that we represent Jesus as His ambassadors on earth. After giving an invitation for salvation in Christ Jesus, I invited those who needed healing to come to the altar.

woman holding 18-month-old baby came to the front of the church. One of the child's legs was straight and normal. The other leg was bowed out in a half-moon shape, as the baby had had a birth injury that had displaced the pelvic bone. The child was facing successive corrective surgeries to straighten the limb. Moved with compassion, I placed my left hand on the baby's pelvic bone and said, "Father, in the name of Jesus, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit, I command this pelvic bone to go into place now!"

I watched awestruck, as the pelvic bone moved into place and the leg straightened out in five seconds before my very eyes! Wow! Jesus did in five seconds what surgical means could only have done over several months.

I am not against medical care or surgery. Quite the contrary. I have seen God heal people with doctors and without doctors, with surgery and without surgery, with medical help or without it. We can't put God in a box and make Him heal us the way we dictate, but we can be assured that He will heal us!

God is called Jehovah-Rapha, which means the Lord God Almighty who heals. He exhorted Moses in Exodus 15:26 to diligently heed His voice and obey Him, and said, "I will not afflict you with any of the diseases ... For I am



the Lord who heals you." Doctors treat sickness and relieve symptoms, but it is God alone who heals.

In that same meeting, another mother saw that child's miracle and said, "I am going to go get my little girl from children's church!" In a few minutes, she came back with her young daughter, whose pelvic bone was tilted. This was clearly evidenced by her tennis shoes as the inner sole was worn down on one shoe, and the outer sole was worn down on the other shoe. All her life, she had walked crooked, run crooked and played crooked.

I knelt down in front of the girl and gently asked her, "Do you want Jesus to heal you?" She shook her head up and down and said, "Yes." I asked her, "May I place my hands on your hips and pray for you?" She nodded yes.

As I placed my hands on her tiny waist, I said, "Father, in the name of Jesus, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit, I command this pelvic bone to rotate into place now." Suddenly, the girl's hips moved to the left and then began to rotate to the right. My eyes were tightly closed. The Lord said to me, "Open your eyes!" As I did, I saw the girl's feet straighten right in front of me. In less than a minute, this little girl had been made whole! I told the mother, "Be sure to go buy her another pair of shoes today, so she won't trip in these."

Only Speak a Word

In the sweltering heat of Kenya, East Africa, I stood under a tent pitched outside a medical clinic teaching about our healing Jesus as people waited their turn to see a doctor. A young mother was next in line to be reexamined. The medical doctor had seen her in previous months for a tumor that had now grown so large she looked like she was 9 months pregnant.

As I was teaching, this mother heard the Word and received faith to be healed. To her amazement, the tumor simply disappeared and her stomach flattened instantly! Bewildered, she went in to the clinic. "Doctor!" she exclaimed. "What has happened to me?" The doctor replied, "I don't know, but you had better go tell the lady who was teaching outside!"

Under that tent, other miracles began to occur. A woman who was deaf in one ear with an infection coming out of it suddenly heard her ear pop open. All the oozing infection dried up, and she could hear perfectly!

Two elderly men at the back of the tent who were sight-impaired suddenly

began to try to get each other's attention. They pointed to objects in the distance that they could now see clearly.

A 12-year-old child was brought for prayer. She had been experiencing 12 epileptic seizures a day. After we commanded the epilepsy to leave her and for her brain to be healed, she stopped having seizures. They reported back to us many days later that she had not had another seizure—praise the Lord!

Exercise Your Dominion

When Jesus was beaten beyond recognition before going to the cross, He took those stripes for our healing. Isaiah 53:5 says, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by his stripes we are healed." When Jesus died, He died in our place, taking the penalty we deserved for our sins, which was death.

The apostle Peter wrote in 1 Peter 1:18-21 that we can call upon the Father, "for you know that you were not redeemed from your vain way of life inherited from your fathers with perishable things, like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He was foreordained before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for you. Through Him you believe in God who raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope might be in God."

The apostle Paul wrote in Romans 8:2, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."

Paul told the church in Galatia in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." We were crucified with Christ.

When Jesus was raised from the dead, we were raised from the dead! Romans 6:9 says, "knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death has no further dominion over Him."

Not only has Jesus destroyed the

power of death's dominion over us, Ephesians 2:6 says, God "raised us up and seated us together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus." That is our position of authority in the spirit realm.

Paul prayed for the believers in Ephesus to know "what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He performed in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principalities, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is

breathe, and He is willing to heal you. The things that are impossible with men are possible with God (see Luke 18:27). Nothing is too hard for our God to heal!

If you need healing, place your hand on your body now as an act of faith and declare this prayer sincerely with all your heart:

"Jesus, I believe You died on the cross for me. You died in my place for all my sins. You were beaten and took the stripes upon your back to bear all my sicknesses and diseases, and by Your stripes, I am healed. I believe in

"Jesus is as close as the breath you breathe, and He is willing to heal you."

named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come" (Eph. 1:19-21).

Jesus gave you His authority (seated with Him), His name (far above every name that is named) and His miracle-working power (according to the working of His mighty power) to do His work (not only in this age, but also in the age to come). Ephesians 1:22-23 continues, "And He put all things in subjection under His feet and made Him the head over all things for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all things in all ways." We are the church of the living God, and God has restored dominion to us in the earth over sickness, disease and death.

Agree for a Miracle

Perhaps you are like the Inuit lady who needed new body parts, or like the lady with the lesions on her hands who had an incurable condition, or you need an adjustment in your spine or pelvic area. Jesus can bring your body back into perfect alignment with a command spoken in faith. You may be blind, hearing-impaired, sight-impaired or have seizures or a growth in your body. The great Creator of the universe will create the fruit of your lips. What is your declaration of faith in God and His Word today?

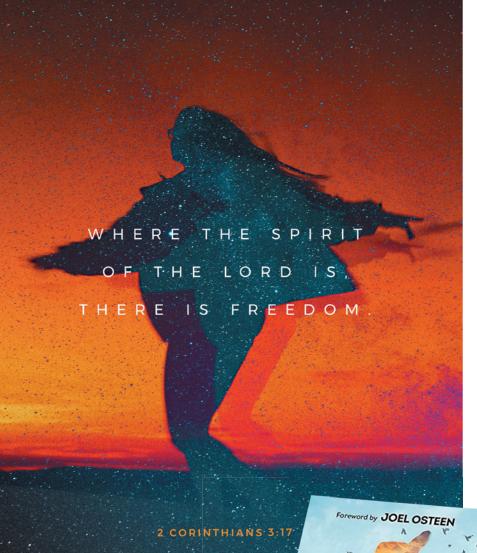
Jesus is as close as the breath you

my heart that God raised You from the dead. The Bible says I died with You, I was buried with You, I was raised from the dead with You and that I am seated with You in heavenly places far above every name that is named. And that includes the name of every sickness and disease.

"I ask You, Jesus, to be Lord of my life. Be Lord of my body. Father God, I come boldly to Your throne of grace and ask for Your grace and mercy today. Touch me. Heal me. Make me whole in the name of Jesus and by the power of Your Holy Spirit. I believe and receive Your healing power flowing into me right now, in Jesus' name. Thank you, Father God, Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit for healing me today. Amen. So be it!"

I pray that the sound of your faith will be heard today to bring the miracle you need!

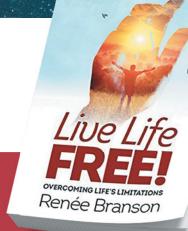
RENÉE BRANSON is the founder and director of Mountain Top Ministries, a world-wide outreach based in Houston, Texas, and author of Live Life Free! Overcoming Life's Limitations. Employed by Lakewood Church for more than 35 years, she has served in various capacities and is currently executive assistant in Joel Osteen Ministries Community Outreach. She has traveled to more than 30 countries as a prophetic teacher of the Word of God.



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God wants to move you out of your valley and into your divine destiny! If the cry of your heart is, "Here I am Lord. Save me, heal me, deliver me, prosper me, fill me, help me, send me," then be encouraged today. God has given you everything you need from His Word to move forward!

Renée Branson, Director of Mountain Top Ministries, is a Bible teacher and speaker who has shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ in over 30 nations. Renée teaches you how to cooperate with God, yield to His will for your life, and receive your healing. Renée imparts wisdom, challenges you to be bold as a lion against your spiritual opposition, and stirs up your Holy Spirit giftings. Renée also teaches you how God will supply resources for your God-sized dream!

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