

Growing a Healing Ministry



acorn
wholeness for all

Training Course in the Ministry of Healing and Wholeness

‘Growing a Healing Ministry’ has been produced by **the Acorn Christian Foundation** to help Christians learn about the healing ministry and to apply what they learn in and through their local church. It is designed as an interactive course for large or small church groups and assumes no prior knowledge or experience in Christian healing. It can however also be used as a refresher training course, and leaders and groups may wish to adopt the material to suit their circumstances. Each session builds on the one before, so it is desirable that group members be committed to the whole course. ‘Growing a Healing Ministry’ makes no assumptions about how you practise this ministry within your local church setting and so is suitable for churches of every description and churchmanship. It is assumed however that a healing ministry will always be exercised under the authority of the church leadership to whom individuals are accountable. This course is designed to help you decide how best to put what you learn into practice so that healing ministry becomes part of how your church expresses the transforming love of Jesus.

O loving God who died to save us truly, where there is despair in life, let us bring hope, where there is injury, let us bring your pardon, where there is dark doubt, let us bring true faith in you. Amen. (Based on the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.)

Material is drawn from the writings of :

+Morris Maddocks, Archbishop Desmond Tutu Revd Russ Parker, Revd Wes Sutton, Revd Canon Anne Long, Dr David Pearson (Healing Advisor, Diocese of Portsmouth).

+Morris Maddocks: “Christian healing is Jesus Christ meeting you at your point of need.”

Growing a Healing Ministry has been approved for use in the Diocese of Gloucester.



COURSE OUTLINE:

Session 1 Principles of Healing Ministry: Seeds of Faith :

The Church's Mandate for Healing. Defining Health and Healing. Five Foundations or Principles undergirding Christian Healing. Practising Prayer for Healing (1)

Session 2 Practical Approach to Healing Ministry: Rooted in the Vine:

A 'RICH' Ministry – attitudes and approaches. Listening as an Essential Component of Christian Healing Ministry. Listening Exercise followed by Prayer and Listening to God for one another. Practising Prayer for Healing (2)

Session 3 Some Important Aspects of Healing: Leaves for Healing:

Healing Damaged Relationships Healing Damaged Emotions Forgiveness and Emotional Healing Practising Prayer for Healing (3)

Session 4 Fruitful Ministry: Fruit Abundant:

Opportunity for Questions and Discussion. Discussion of why we may not see the healing we wish for. Case Studies for self-reflection on our own and Church Ministry. Practising Prayers for Healing (4)

Session 5 Prayer Ministry as a Team: Oaks of Righteousness:

Growing a Prayer Team – Qualities of Team Members: Possible problems encountered in Prayer Ministry. Praying in groups of three, using the combined model. Follow-up and Referrals.

Session 6 Growing a Healing Church: A Planting of the Lord:

Marks of a Healing Church. Listening to our Church and Community. Developing Prayer Ministry in our Church. Praying for one another.

Appendices

1. References to Healing in the Bible and the History of the Church.
2. 'Healing in The Local Church' by Stephen Sidebotham.
3. 'Good Practice in the Christian Healing Ministry' (From 'A Time to Heal').
- 4 . Resources for Healing Services.
5. Further Reading and Bibliography.

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