



## CELL GUIDE

TOPIC He Heals

SPEAKER DSP Edric Sng

THEME God Answers Prayer

DATE 2 and 3 Mar 2024

# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Have you ever experienced a catastrophic situation which you deemed as humanly impossible to solve? Are you going through a health condition where doctors have given you a terminal diagnosis? Are you going through emotional trauma which has plagued you for the longest time? Whatever condition you are facing, today's sermon brings about a message of assurance that God has the power to answer your prayer.

### The God Who Answers Prayers.

In this sermon, a powerful testimony was shared about Tony who had stage 4 cancer which affected his nose, lymph nodes and other areas of his body. He eventually fell into a vegetative state where he was pronounced dead by the doctors. He was not a believer then. His wife, Ashley, refused to accept the doctors' diagnosis as truth and put her faith in God. Seven days later, Tony woke up from his death – a miracle! However, the doctors told him that because a quarter of his brain had been taken out, he would be unable to move his limbs or to walk again. Tony prayed. He wanted to be able to read the Bible, to know more about this God who raised him from the dead. God enabled his little finger to move and he could turn the pages of the Bible. He read the Bible from beginning to end, and God told him that His healing words in the Bible would enable him to stand. He was able to stand and walk upon finishing the Bible, and could even dance with his wife a month later. The doctor was astonished, as Tony's walking was a medical impossibility after such an extensive brain surgery. Eventually, even the brain surgeon who operated on him became a Christian because of Tony's resurrection from the dead and the miraculous recovery of his mobility.

We are reminded of the resurrection of Lazarus who was also dead four days before Jesus called him back from the dead (John 11).

A question many believers or seekers may ask is:

### Main Question: Does God answer prayer?

There are a few basic assumptions before the question can be satisfactorily answered. These assumptions are revealed when you **say yes** to the following questions asked.

#### Question 1: Do you believe in God? Answer: Yes

Assumption 1: You believe there is a God whom you have a personal relationship with.

#### Question 2: Is God able to answer prayer? Answer: Yes

Assumption 2: The God you believe in can answer prayer.

**Question 3: Is God willing to answer prayer? Answer: Yes**

Assumption 3: The God you believe in is willing to answer prayer.

**Question 4: Is God willing to answer prayers for healing? Answer: Yes**

Assumption 4: The God you believe in is willing to answer prayers of healing.

We believe God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and if He can create the world, He can also heal our bodies, and answer prayers for healing. However, we sometimes do not experience healing immediately.

There are two schools of thoughts when it comes to healing: *Cessationism* and *Continuationism*. Believers of Cessationism believe that the signs, wonders and miracles which Jesus carried out are no longer tangibly evident today because they were only needed then for the divine authentication of Jesus as the Messiah and the apostles of the church. On the other hand, Continuationism believes that signs, wonders, and miracles continue on till this present age because the same Holy Spirit at work in Jesus' time is also present now.

In BBTC, we believe that the God of the Old Testament and the New Testament is the same God who has the same power for signs and wonders. He is the God of the past as well as the present, the same Holy Spirit who moved in the past is still alive and working today.

As such, when our prayers are not answered, it is not because God is unable or not willing but that the answers may not be immediate. Hang on to the Word of God, which says that God is a good Father who longs to give us good gifts and trust that God knows what the best gift for us is, and the best timing for it to be given to us.

In the process of waiting, we are to pray and ask God to search our hearts, to see if we are asking out of the wrong intentions or spirit. We are not to let doubt, or possibly borrowed faith, be the spiritual blockage that prevents us from having our prayers answered.

Ultimately, we will not know the reason why some of our prayers are not answered. These are mysteries that we will know when we get to heaven. However, the Bible shows through examples that sometimes unanswered prayer can be used to teach us humility (Paul's thorn in his flesh), or to teach us perseverance in prayer (parable of the persistent widow). God knows when is the best and proper time for you to be exalted, so in the meantime, we wait and trust in Him. We persevere in prayer and cast our cares upon Him (1 Peter 5:7) knowing that He loves and cares deeply for us.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we are to remember to persevere in prayer. Prayer is like hitting the wall with a sledgehammer. The first few hits may not yield any visible dents or cracks, but with continuous hammering of the sledgehammer, the wall will suffer considerable damage. It is the same with prayer – we pray until something happens, trusting that God is a loving Father who will give us good gifts in good time.

Are you stricken with bad health, going through unbearable trauma or in an impossible situation? God has not forsaken you. He is a good Father who loves you and can bring a miracle into your life. Believe in God and trust in Him.

# QUESTIONS

1. What is an impossible situations you're facing in life right now? What miracles are you hoping God will bring into these impossible situations?

2. Describe a miracle which God brought about in your life (or one that you've witnessed). How did it change your life and the people around you?

3. Do you need healing in your life? In your cell group, pray for someone who is standing in faith for healing. You may also pray for pre-believers in your life who need a miraculous touch from God.