

Session 4 – The Healing Touch of God

God is the Potter, We are the Clay

- ▶ Scripture frequently uses the image of a pot to describe our relationship with God.
- ▶ Scripture also speaks of how we have a tendency to rebel against God's will for our lives, and in doing so, destroy his plan for our lives, as well as our effectiveness in his service.
- ▶ Our lives, because of our hurt, rebellion and sin, are like shattered pots – created to hold the beauty of God's love, but shattered and unable to do so.
- ▶ The thirty pieces of silver Judas was given and then threw in to the temple was used to be that Potter's Field where all of the broken pots were thrown.
- ▶ The Potter's Field is a symbol of our lives, of the world.
- ▶ The Potter's Field was bought with the price paid for Jesus' life. Our lives are no longer useless but can be healed and restored.

Obstacles to God's Healing Love

- ▶ Jesus saves us from our sins and the effects of our sins and the sins of others.
- ▶ One obstacle is failing to take responsibility for our sinful actions, wrong attitudes and reactions to hurts.
- ▶ When we begin to take responsibility for our wrongful responses and attitudes, we need to accept forgiveness from God.
- ▶ Many have difficulty forgiving ourselves for our past sins and failings.
- ▶ Our inability to forgive others hinders the power of God's love in our lives.
- ▶ Involvement in occult practices can be a spiritual obstacle to God's power in our lives.

Opening to God's Healing Love

Take a moment to think about the obstacles to God's healing love might be:

- ▶ Are there areas of sin which we have not acknowledged?
- ▶ Have we failed to accept God's forgiveness?
- ▶ Do we need to forgive ourselves?
- ▶ Are there other people we need to forgive?
- ▶ Do we need to renounce occult practices?

Psalm 139 (V. 1-6, 12-15)

Lord, you have probed me and you know me;

You know when I sit and when I stand;
You understand my thoughts from afar....
With all my ways you are familiar.
Even before a word is on my tongue, behold
O Lord, you know the whole of it.
Behind me and before me, you hem me in
And rest your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
Too lofty for me to attain
For you, darkness itself is not dark
And night shines as the day;
Darkness and light are the same.
Truly you have formed my inmost being;
You knit me in my mother's womb ...
My soul also, you knew full well ...
Your eyes have seen my actions,
In your book they are all written.

Discussion Questions

1. What mental picture do you have of the disciples on Pentecost?
2. In what ways might it be difficult to yield to the working of the Holy Spirit?
3. What do you expect to happen when we pray for New Life in the Spirit with everyone on the evening of Pentecost 2025, June 8th.
4. What gifts do you wish to receive in more power on Pentecost?
5. What gifts do you wish to understand and use in your life?
6. What importance do repentance, conversion or reconciliation have in your family today? What importance did they have to your family when you were a child?
7. Do you expect this Pentecost experience to be different from your Confirmation?

Scripture

2 Cor.4:7

2 Timothy 2:20

Romans 9:20-21

Matt. 37:3-10

▶ 1 Peter 2:24

Jn. 10:10