

*I thank God
for
His Healing
Touch*

by

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As stated in the title of this little booklet, I thank God for His healing touch and because I feel indebted to my Creator, Sustainer, and Saviour for His love, mercy, and grace I think the least I can do is put pen to paper to tell of His amazing ability.

Although many of you may know me, some may not, so before I tell you of my experience of pain and healing let me give you a few details about myself.

I am married to Eric and I am proud to say I am the mother of eight great individuals and the grandmother of seven wonderful grandchildren. We live on the family farm, and our home overlooks beautiful Mulroy Bay, in what I classify as one of the most scenic areas of beautiful County Donegal.

Although farming was our life-time occupation, Eric and I also did door to door sales around our locality with fruit, vegetables, home baking, etc., four days each week for several years. Eric also had a lorry and he transported sheep for us and other farmers from quite a wide catchment area to a factory in Co. Roscommon. He did this twice a week until our son David was able to assist, so life was never dull.

For the past 18 years we have also been involved with a Network Marketing Company that grow and produce Natural Health Products and we believe they have contributed to our general good health.

Because my parents were Christians they took my brother and I to Gospel Meetings from childhood. I believed in God and knew about the Lord Jesus, but it wasn't until I was 15 years of age that I realized I was a sinner and I could never be accepted by God unless I repented of my sin and put my trust in his Son, the Lord Jesus who gave His sinless life for me on the cross at Calvary.

I have written my testimony of how I not only received spiritual healing but I am also thankful to be able to say I received physical healing on two previous occasions. These testimonies I have recorded in a little book called *The Jigsaw Puzzle*.

The thoughts that were in my mind a few days before I suffered what I can only describe as excruciating pain in August 2016 are recorded in the poem "The prayer of my heart." It was when I reread this poem after I again received what I classify as God's healing touch I realized as on

previous occasions God had me where He wanted me to be so that He could speak to me of His foreknowledge, wisdom, love and grace.

I believe God allows us to experience times of difficulty, testing, sickness and pain so that He can lead us into a deeper relationship with Him through faith and trust.

The prayer of my heart

Dear Lord, please lead, guide and direct me
In everything I say, think and do
Help me to give praise, honour, and glory
In every circumstance dear Lord to You!

Thank You for Your blessed Holy Spirit
That comforts, strengthens, and keeps
Help me to dwell in Your Divine Will
Every day whether awake or asleep!

Please, oh please dear Lord, help people to see
What you want them to know through thoughts you give me
Help me to understand Your Word as I read
So that I can help others who are in spiritual need.

Please give me wisdom and discernment each day
As I meet people who need you on earth's pathway
Take from me anything that would hinder or hurt
The people I meet whom you love so much.

Take from me arrogance, hypocrisy, and pride
And anything else that should not dwell inside
Please show me clearly how you see me
And enable me to live as I ought daily.

Take from me thoughtlessness and selfishness I pray
Help me to show your love to all who pass my way
Lord, I desire naught but to dwell in Your Will
May Your Holy Spirit enable me Your Will to fulfil!

Because of heavy lifting and eight pregnancies I had to have two operations in recent years. I had a Hysterectomy and I had my pelvic floor tightened but I am very thankful that for a 69 year old, I have very good health and I contribute my good health to Almighty God and the great natural products we use. However, I got a surprise when making a bed one day last August. As I turned slightly to my right to lift a sheet; I was hit with severe pain in my back. The pain went into my leg; to my groin, to the right of my thigh and to the inside of my leg below my knee. I had what I could only describe as excruciating pain both day and night for several weeks. I was only able to sleep about two or three hours each night.

In fact, because the pain was so severe I travelled over thirty kilometres during the night on two occasions to visit Now-Doc in Letterkenny. Although I had given birth to eight children and had had two operations I never felt pain like it. I'm not a very emotional person but I could do nothing but sob. The first painkilling patches and tablets I was given took little effect but when I was prescribed stronger painkillers and patches I was a lot more comfortable.

I had an x-ray done but it didn't reveal the problem and I was told that I would need to have an MRI Scan but I would have to wait a long time to have it done through the system but if I wished I could have it done in the private hospital in Ballykelly, Co Derry.

Because the pain was so severe Eric and I felt we had no option. The MRI was done at the beginning of September and showed that I had bulging discs in my spine; they were touching my spinal cord and had trapped the sciatic nerve. It was thought I would need surgery.

During this time I was questioning God because Eric had prayed and asked God to heal me but I was still in agony and I believed God had the ability to do anything He wished. I knew He had the power to heal because I had experienced His healing touch in the past.

You can now read for yourself the thoughts that were in my head at the time as I believe God began to reveal His purpose.

God has a Purpose and Plan

I began to understand and sympathize
With people who live with pain
When excruciating was the word
I was heard to say over and over again.
Pain made me feel so helpless
It made me feel so weak
When painkillers acted like sweets
I could neither, sit, stand, walk or sleep.
When my mind began to frazzle
And all I wanted to do was cry
I gave thanks for family and friends
Who sympathised and tried
To do all they could to help
As painful hours and days went by
I could see they too felt helpless
This too made me want to cry

Then I began to count my blessings
And thank God for family and friends
Many offering to bring my needs
To the only One who can make amends
For their prayers, I was so thankful
Because at times I found it hard to pray
At other times I questioned God
As to why He left me feeling this way
You see I had asked for healing
Because I had known His healing before
But I felt He wanted to teach me much
So I could empathize and help people more
If I myself experienced
What many people have to bear
Then I could understand their pain
Their burdens, needs, and cares.

One night when in distress
God led me to read Psalm 77
It was as if I were the scribe
And God knew my needs in heaven
He led me to continue reading
To Psalm number 86
When in awe I was able to thank God
As I read my thoughts in His sacred text
I now felt He had a purpose

And I believed He had a plan
All I needed to do was trust Him
Who hold this world in His Hands!

When I couldn't sleep at night I would get up and either do some reading or writing. One night I opened the Bible and began to read at Psalm 76, nothing really spoke to me within this Psalm, but when I began to read Psalm 77, it was as if the thoughts of my mind and the feelings of my heart were poured out on paper. I continued reading until I reached Psalm 86 and again it was as if my thoughts had been put in print.

As you read Ps. 77 I trust you will understand what I mean.

Psalm 77: 1-15

1. I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.
2. When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands and my soul refused to be comforted.
3. I remembered you, O God, and I mused, and my spirit grew faint.
4. You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak.
5. I thought about the former days, the years of long ago;
6. I remembered my songs in the night. My heart mused and my spirit enquired;
7. "Will the Lord reject for ever? Will he never show his favour again?"
8. Has his unfailing love vanished for ever? Has his promise failed for all time?
9. Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion."
10. Then I thought, "To this I will appeal; the years of the right hand of the Most High."
11. I will remember the years of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.
12. I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.
13. Your ways, O God, are holy. What god is so great as our God?
14. You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples.
15. With your mighty arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.

As you know I was questioning God when I read Psalm 77 and I now said to him, “Lord, the person who wrote this Psalm was also pouring out their heart to you, they must have been in a similar situation to me and if what I am experiencing is in Your Will, then May Your Will be done.”

Other people whose life stories are recorded in God’s Word then came to mind, people like Joseph, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Daniel, Peter, and Paul.

Joseph: Joseph, a native of Cannon (now called Israel) was sold into slavery by his brothers because of jealousy and he was later falsely accused and sent to prison, but in time God delivered him and gave him a position of authority in Egypt. God had him where he wanted him to be so he would be a blessing to his family in their time of serious need. Genesis chapters 37- 45

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: They were thrown into a fiery furnace because they refused to bow down and worship the golden image of King Nebuchadnezzar, but because they declared their faith in God and in his ability to save them God brought them out of the furnace unharmed in any way. Daniel chapter’s 1 – 3

Daniel: During the reign of the Babylonians in Judah, the administrators and governors under King Darius were jealous of Daniel and in order to trap Daniel they asked the King to make a law that anyone who prayed to any god or man other than the King should be thrown into the lions den. Because Daniel refused to pray to King Darius he was thrown into the den, but God brought him out unscathed. As a result King Darius put his trust in Daniel’s God and made a decree that the people in his kingdom should fear and revere the God who Daniel served. Daniel chapters 1 – 6

I thought of how the Lord Jesus, God’s own Son allowed His sinless blood to be shed on the cross at Calvary so that we sinners could be saved from all our sins and I remembered how God brought Jesus to the point

where He was willing to say, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

As these thoughts came to mind, I remember saying, “Lord, I know that you are the God who is able to do anything you wish.”

Sometimes we question God’s Purpose and Plan

God recorded events in Scripture
That He wants us to read and heed
We may think they have little relevance
To our physical or spiritual needs!

Scripture tells of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego
Who disobeyed the laws of the king
Who demanded they ate food offered to idols
Then bow down and worship him.

They disobeyed and were thrown in a furnace,
They chose to obey God rather than man
But God honoured their faith and trust in Him
He delivered them unscathed and unharmed.

Daniel, he was thrown into the lions den
When he also disobeyed the king
Now the king bowed down and worshiped God
when Daniel too walked out unscathed, “redeemed.”

Daniel who prayed three times each day
Was honoured by his Lord and God
His life was a testimony to this pagan ruler
Who now commanded, “Worship Daniel’s God?”

Sometimes we question God’s purpose and plan
When as God’s servants we trust and obey
But like Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel
We need to trust God who won’t lead us astray.

God could have led his servants by an easier route
But that was not His purpose and plan

He who alone knows the end from the beginning
Would in time reveal His purpose to man.

Would King Darius have taken heed?
If God had led His servant Daniel by an easier way
Possibly not, nor would He have ordered His subject
To obey God for the rest of their days!

When I read Psalm 86 it was as if the pen was in my own hand.

Psalm 86:1 - 13

1 Hear, O Lord and answer me, for I am poor and needy.
2 Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save me your servant who trusts in you.
3 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to you all day long.
4 Bring joy to your servant, for to you O Lord, I lift up my soul.
5 You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you.
6 Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy.
7 In the day of my trouble I will call to you, for you will answer me.
8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours.
9 All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name.
10 For you are great and do marvellous deeds; you alone are God.
11 Teach me your ways, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.
12 I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name for ever.
13 For great is your love towards me; for you have delivered me from the depth of the grave.

A few days after I had the MRI Scan done the words of James 5:14 & 15 came to mind.

v. 14 Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.

v. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up.

I remember thinking, Lord why did you not bring these verses to mind before I spent all that money to get the MRI done?, but then I thought, If you had healed me before I had the MRI done nobody would have believed there was anything the matter with me.

I immediately lifted the phone and rang our minister and she said, “Right, we will do that on Wednesday night after the Prayer Meeting.”

That is exactly what happened and I now want to give thanks and praise to Almighty God, because although my painkilling tablets were finished on Monday and the last pain killing patch that I had was due to be taken off on Friday, I am thankful to be able to say I didn’t need any more tablets or patches.
Praise to God’s holy name!

I’m now writing this on the 8th August 2016 and the healing took place on at the beginning of September 2015 and I can truthfully say I haven’t had either a pain or ache in any of the areas concerned since I was prayed over on that Wednesday night .

While I am very grateful and thankful to all who agreed to pray, I say, “To God be the Glory.”

A Word of Thanks to Friends

After struggling with pain
Barely able to move
Can I tell you I appreciated?
Displays of love!

“Please” and “Thank you”

As I communed in prayer with my Lord and my God
I apologised when I realized **“please”** was almost the most uttered word
Right then it was as if I heard my Heavenly Father say
“I’m delighted when you come and speak to me on any day.”
“Don’t you know that when a parent is teaching their child to speak
“Please” is one of the first words, be it said in Irish English or Greek”
“The parent may not always fulfil their child’s request
Because they only want for their child what is the very best.
But when “Yes” is the answer they then want to hear
The words “Thank you Daddy, or Mummy” ringing in their ear.”
“The same scenario applies in your relationship with me
And it will remain so for now and for all eternity.”
“While I don’t want you to be selfish, greedy or vain
I want you to have nothing but the best so I’ll say “Yes” again and again.
Nor do I want to lavishly pour treasures into your lap
I want you to make good choices and keep our relationship on track.”
“I want your life to be an example so that other people will see
That they too can know the help of the Holy Spirit daily!”



I believe it is worth noting that like a human father God does not always give us what we want. In 2 Corinthians 12:7-9 we read that St. Paul asked the Lord three times to remove what he described, a thorn in the flesh, but

note what the Lord said to him. V.9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Philippians 4:13 was given to me by an old lady after I put my trust in Jesus and I have found it to be of great help in my life.

V.13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Because I was so thankful for the love, and care that many people showed me during this difficult time, I wrote this poem to express my thanks.

A Little Word of Thanks

A little word of thanks
Is offered to you today
For the kindness and love
That you generously displayed.

Your help was much appreciated
Valued and felt
Please accept my gratitude
That is sincerely meant.

My body that felt so helpless
Through lack of sleep and pain
Now wants to say "Thank You"
Because it almost feels human again.

Jesus himself suffered
More pain than we know
He chose to bear the pain of man
So He could sin's burden overthrow.

I never before questioned
Why God allowed Him to bear such pain
He could have chosen an easier route
Rather than one of anguish and shame!

But Jesus had to bear sins consequences
He had to bleed and die
He defeated Satan and conquered death
Now He sits enthroned on high.

God now offers redemption and healing
To all who seek it in Jesus name!
Spiritual or physical healing can be ours
Praise to Jesus holy name.

We Humans take so much for granted

We humans take so much for granted
We expect our bodies to work as they should
I don't know about you but I know this I do
And I expect you are also part of this brood.

We open our mouths and we expect to hear
Thoughts that quickly flash through our minds
We don't have to search through books or files
Nor do we have long, long discs to unwind.

We can see, taste, hear, smell, feel and touch
Fear, hate and love, we have been endued with so much.
Our legs can sit, stand, walk, jump, kneel and lie
With our hands, we can do so much if we are willing to try.

Our minds enable us to envisage, create and plan
These complex organs that have baffled many a man
We can use our abilities to make this world a better place
We can help people we meet or leave this world in disgrace.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

Our memory is so short
That we really ought to say
Thank You, Thank You, Thank You
A hundred times a day!

We forget to count our blessings
Until something goes wrong
Then we are reminded
We have a God we can rely upon.

There is so much we take for granted
Each and every single day
Like air to breathe and food to eat
And money to give away!

We ought to thank our God
For our family, neighbours and friends
We ought to thank Him for our homes
And a place to lay our heads!

We ought to thank Him for the gifts
Of sight, of hearing and speech
And when something goes wrong
We have help within our reach.

We ought to thank Him for our land
Where we can legally say and do
Much that would be forbidden elsewhere
There is truth in what I'm saying to you.

We ought to thank Him for the privilege
Of being able to speak to Him in prayer
Casting all our burdens on Him
Who understands and cares.

We ought to thank Him for His beloved Son
Who paid our great debt for sin
And opened heaven's communication gate
So we can now talk with Him.

Please read God's Word

Please take time to read God's Word dear friend
It's the Bread of Life for me and you
We must feast on God's spiritual food
If we're to grow as He wants us to.

If we put our trust in the Saviour
We become mere babes in Jesus Christ
But God doesn't want us to stay babes
He wants to grow our spiritual life.

Many think of God's Word as a treat
To be indulged in one day a week
Depending on another to search its depths
And reveal its great riches and truth!

If we did this with physical food
We would be dead before very long
So please, oh please take note dear friend
God wants us to become spiritually strong.

So please start to read God's Precious Word
It's His divine Word of Truth to you
We are all invited to the banquet
God invites your friends and family too.

We can all be careless and lazy
We can be easily distracted too
But we will soon bear the consequences
Of not taking time the Lord's will to pursue.

We will soon become weak and feeble
We will soon become parched and dry
There may come a time when we can't read

Then the opportunity will have passed us by.

Other books & CD's by this author:

Books of Christian Poetry

Whispers of Love 1
Whispers of Love 2
Whispers of Love 3
Whispers of Love 4
Whispers of Love 5
Give God the Glory

The Jigsaw Puzzle

A personal testimony of how God revealed himself through times of illness

“Kerrykeel”

A Place Worth Remembering

Memories of childhood spent in Kerrykeel, Co Donegal

The Life and Labours of Tom Anderson

My Uncles testimony and my recollections of his life

Testimony Time, Saved by Grace

A book of Christian testimonials

CD's Whispers of Love 1 & 2

Olive reading poetry backed by Gospel Music by Jas. Strange

Contact details:

**Olive Borland,
Cloughfin,
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Co Donegal,
Ireland.**

Psalm 30:2 says this, ‘O Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.’ Our God is the God who heals. Jesus Christ healed when He walked this earth and we believe He still heals today.

I would encourage anyone seeking healing for themselves or others, to request the laying on of hands and prayer in the name of Jesus Christ from their church leaders. This is exactly what Scripture encourages us to do:

‘Is anyone of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well...’ James 5:13-15

We can all play our part by praying for healing, for others and ourselves, on a regular basis. Our God is the God who answers prayer. Let us come to Him in confidence and to Him be all the praise and glory.

Rev. Janice Browne