

Laying On of Hands

By Dr. Dan Cheatham, www.devotional.net

Jesus said to them who have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost: "Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." (John 7:28) The Holy Spirit is invisible just like electricity. The Holy Spirit is also tangible and real just like electricity. Although electricity is invisible, it produces visible effects and benefits. Streams, currents, shockwaves of power, liquid fire, flashes of energy, waves of living waters, geysers of healing virtue may flow freely out of the believer to bless humanity. Just how does the Holy Spirit FLOW OUT? Two ways, primarily. Through FAITH-FILLED WORDS and HOLY HANDS! The Bible says to "lift up holy hands" (I Tim 2:8). Holy hands are hands that worship God. Holy hands are hands that a believer dedicates to God for His use. Holy hands are hands that a believer won't allow to sin. God uses Holy Hands. Our hands are holy. Our hands are instruments of blessing for His glory. The basic fundamental law of LAYING ON OF HANDS is the LAW OF CONTACT AND TRANSMISSION.

Let us study TEN WAYS TO BLESS PEOPLE THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS. Take your notebook paper, title page one with "LAYING ON OF HANDS" and follow these instructions being used to title and number each section as numbered here.

1. TO IMPART DIVINE HEALING. Write down Malachi 4:2, Luke 4:40, and Mark 16:15-18.

Malachi prophesied that the coming Messiah would have a healing ministry through the laying on of hands. When Jesus touched the sick in faith, healing always flowed. When the sick received in faith, healing always manifested. In Mark 16, Jesus commissioned the church against sickness, just like he commissioned the church against sin.

QUESTION: Through what primary method are we to declare our war on sickness?

2. TO RECEIVE DIVINE HEALING.

Write down Luke 6:19 and Mark 5:30-38.

Touch to give healing. Touch to receive healing.

QUESTION: In these two instances, who did the TOUCHING, Jesus or the people? The "minister" or the "minissee"?

3. TO BAPTIZE BELIEVERS IN WATER. Write down Acts 8:38.

QUESTION: In order to baptize (literal Greek: dip, immerse) someone, you must do what to them?

The "baptizee" is at the mercy of the hands of the "baptizer". The baptizer's hands represent the hand of the Lord that saved the baptizee... the RIGHT HAND OF THE LORD... Jesus Christ himself.

4. TO MINISTER THE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM.

Write down Acts 19:5,6 and Acts 8:15-17.

One Spirit-filled believer may lay hands on another believer to help him receive the power of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit ON the Spirit-filled believer will COME ON the candidate to help him yield to the Holy Spirit. The evidence of the candidate receiving the Spirit is the candidate's faith (Hebrews 11:1). The consequence of faith and yieldedness is speaking in tongues (Acts 2:4).\

QUESTIONS:

- A. What is the benefit of praying in tongues in Jude 20?
- B. What is the benefit of praying in tongues in Romans 8:26,27?
- C. In I Cor 14:14, which part of you is praying when you speak in tongues.
- D. In I Cor 14:2, who are you communicating with when you pray in tongues?
- E. In I Cor 14:18, why was Paul thankful?
- F. In verse 14:39, what does it command about speaking in tongues?
- G. In verse 14:17, what do you do "well" when you pray in tongues?
- H. In verse 14:13, what may we pray for?
- I. In verse 14:15, Paul says he prays two ways, what are they?
- J. What are the nine gifts as listed in I Cor 12:7-11 that the Holy Spirit can manifest through you at any time as He wills, once you have been filled with the Spirit?

5. TO IMPART SPIRITUAL GIFTS. Write down II Timothy 1: 6 and I Timothy 4:14. A "presbytery" is a group of supernaturally called and separated ministers of the gospel who gather together to fast, pray, execute kingdom plans, establish spiritual doctrine, and ordain ministers.

QUESTION: What was the modus operandi that God used to impart spiritual gifts to Timothy?

6. TO ORDAIN MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL OR TO APPOINT THEM TO CERTAIN MISSIONS.

Write down Deuteronomy 34:9; Titus 1:5; Acts 13:2,3.

All ministers of the gospel must be authenticated and validated by a presbytery of other ministers. This is God's method of safety for the flock and safety for the minister. Jesus ordained the twelve apostles. Even Jesus himself had to be ordained by John the Baptist, the same time John laid hands on him to water baptize him. John the Baptist was ordained by his father, Zacharias, the priest at John's dedication. Zacharias was ordained by the priests before him and so on.

QUESTIONS:

- A. In Galatians 2:9, after the presbytery of the church of Jerusalem "perceived" that Paul and Barnabas were called preachers of the gospel, what did they give to them?
- B. In I Timothy 5:22, how are ministers commanded to be careful who they ordain?
- C. Why did Joshua have the spirit of wisdom to lead God's people? (Dt 34:9)
- D. In Acts 15:24, what was the result of certain people trying to be ministers of the gospel on their own without being ordained, authenticated, and validated by the laying on of hands of reputable ministers?

7. TO APPOINT AND ANOINT DEACONS (Ministers Of Helps) AND HELPERS.

Write down Acts 6:6.

QUESTIONS:

- A. In Acts 6:1-7, what business were the seven deacons "appointed" to do?
- B. In verse 7, what was the result of adding appointed, anointed deacons to the church at Jerusalem?

8. TO PERFORM MIRACLES.

Write down Matthew 14:19 and Acts 19: 11,12.

It seems that most (not all) special miracles are performed when the Holy Spirit directs the believer to "do something" that involves his "hands".

9. TO IMPART TANGIBLE BLESSING.

Write down Mark 10:16 and John 14:12.

Jesus imparted blessing upon people through the laying on of hands. He invoked literal and tangible blessing that "stuck with" people all their lives. Through John 14:12 we are also authorized to confer blessing upon people through the TOUCH OF OUR HANDS. Notice here in Mark 10:13-16, that we also have a spiritual precedent for dedicating children through the laying on of hands.

10. TO RECEIVE VOCATIONAL BLESSING.

Write down Deuteronomy 28:8,12; Psalm 90:17; and Proverbs 10:4.

Because God's blessing pulsates and radiates through our hands, our work is blessed. Success, prosperity, rewards, and creativity flow through our holy hands.

CONCLUSION: When you lay your hands on someone in simple faith, SOMETHING HAPPENS, SOMETHING FLOWS, SOMETHING CHANGES.

CONFESSION ALOUD WITH YOUR OWN MOUTH: My hands are holy as I dedicate them to you, O God. My hands are connected to my heart which is connected to Heaven. My hands TOUCH and BLESS OTHERS. Healing virtue pours out of my heart down through my arms and radiates from my hands. My hands are dripping with divine love. My hands are creative. My hands are beautiful. My hands are the extended hands of Jesus. Jesus Christ indwells in my hands, the hope of Glory. I will TOUCH. I will IMPART. I will CONTACT and I will TRANSMIT!

FINAL QUESTIONS (Write them down):

What is the fundamental law of laying on of hands?

What are the ten ways to bless people through the laying on of hands?

HOW DO I PLAN TO PUT THIS LESSON INTO PRACTICE THIS WEEK?