

# Jesus Bible Study Series

Week #5 (Chapter Nine)  
*The Ultimate Healer*

**HMR**  
Men's Bible Study

## Main Idea

Jesus' ability to heal was a tremendous draw to a hurting world that desperately needed not only physical healing, but spiritual healing as well. Jesus' ability to do the impossible in healing the lame, giving the blind their sight, and even raising the dead to life was a critical vehicle for convincing a skeptical world that He was more than a good teacher.

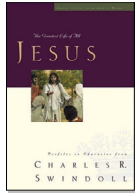
## Deep Thoughts

Consistent with Jesus' deity, He had complete control over the ability to heal. As in everything He did, His purpose in healing was to bring glory to God. This is in stark contrast to the modern faith healers who are primarily focused on bringing attention to "their" work, although most are willing to share some of the glory with God. The Lord still heals people today, but it is always in His timing and in accordance with His purposes. Miraculous healings are rarely heard of today not necessarily because modern man does not have the faith required to "make things happen", but because today we have access to the Bible, history, and the Holy Spirit who brings conviction to our lives. Jesus' miraculous healing powers were primarily accomplished to validate Old Testament prophecies, prove that He was the Messiah, and draw people to Him who needed convincing proof. In this series we continue our focus on *abiding in Christ by understanding who He was, who He is, and who He calls us to be.*

**Supporting Scriptures** Matthew 9:18-25; Mark 5:22-43; Luke 8:40-55; Daniel 4:34-35, 6:26; and Acts 3.

## Questions for Consideration

1. Read the text on pages 125 – 127 (stop at *Praying Healers*) that details the miraculous work of Jesus in the lives of the hemorrhaging woman and the raising the daughter of Jairus from the dead. How were these people's lives changed because of what Jesus did in their lives? How was their faith strengthened in seeing God's Hand at work?
2. On pages 128-131 Dr. Swindoll concludes that **God is all powerful and all sovereign**. What do these words mean to you? In many of today's church have we reduced God to an image that is little more than a sorcerer grandfather rather than the All Powerful Supreme Ruler of the universe that He is? Consider not so much what we think, but how we live as reflected in the decisions that we make (which are really a reflection of what we believe).
3. Read the statements made by Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:34-35) and Darius (Daniel 6:26) written on page 129. How important is it that we be reminded of God's tremendous power and sovereignty? When we read statements such as these, how we are to respond?
4. On page 131 Dr. Swindoll lists three observations for recognizing a miraculous healing from God. Why is it important that we have a Biblical perspective to avoid the sensationalism that plagues some elements in the modern church?
  - The healing is instantaneous and permanent.
  - The healing was obvious and comprehensive.
  - The healing was neither directly nor indirectly the work of people.
5. On page 138 Dr. Swindoll lists five principles regarding divine healing: (1) will of God, (2) medical assistance, (3) intercessory prayer, (4) confession of sin, and (5) all healing is of God. How could these principles be used to minister to someone who is not experiencing healing and especially someone who might have a terminal disease?



# Jesus Bible Study Series

Week #5 (Chapter Ten)

*Abiding in Christ*

**HMR**  
Men's Bible Study

## Main Idea

There is no better summary of living the Christian life than what we read in John 15:5 – *I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.* The only conclusion that we can come to in reading this passage is that if we are to be successful as Believers, there is no other path to success than abiding in Christ.

## Deep Thoughts

If you were to ask 10 Christians what it means to “abide in Christ”, you are likely to get just as many answers. Sometimes when I have difficulty answering a tough question, I find my answer in responding to the opposite. In this case – what does it mean to not abide in Christ? Unfortunately, this is a much easier question to answer for many of us. From my vantage point not abiding in Christ means that I do what I want, when I want, and how I want. My life is lived in such a manner that I give little regard to what Christ has called me to do. The problem with sin (and selfishness) is that it provides short-term gratification, but the satisfaction is not sustainable. If sin was not gratifying (albeit it temporarily), rest assured we would not do it. The challenge in living for Christ (i.e. abiding) is that the focus must shift from me to Jesus. This is diametrically opposed to our human nature, a fact that plagues us even as Believers. Therefore, the answer to the abiding question boils down to this: *who is running your life?* When you are confronted with those problematic areas of temptation in your life, whose path do you choose – yours or the path of Jesus? There is no greater peace for a Believer than to abide in Christ. The barometer of success is revealed in how we handle the sin areas in our lives. Jesus came to give us victory over sin. In this lesson we continue our focus on *abiding in Christ by understanding who He was, who He is, and who He calls us to be.*

**Supporting Scriptures** Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 2:12; 1 Corinthians 11:27-32; and John 15:1-6, 7-8.

## Questions for Consideration

- Many Believers have the mistaken notion that because our salvation does not depend on works that our salvation should not be lived out by working. As Paul wrote in Philippians 2:12 *...work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.* God has a very high standard for us as reflected in His message found in Isaiah 5:1-7. Consider this passage in Isaiah and answer the following questions.
  - What conclusions do we come to regarding God's expectations for the vineyard?
  - What happened to Israel because of their sin, rejection of God, and disbelief in Jesus?
  - What will (and could) happen to a Believer who does not produce fruit? Consider 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 in developing your answer.
- Read John 15:1-6 that discusses Jesus' role as the vine and consider the following questions.
  - Of whom is Jesus speaking in this passage? Context is extremely important here.
  - In reading verse 6, what might we conclude about what happens to those who do not abide in Christ?
  - On page 151 Warren Wiersbe states, *It is a tragic thing for a once-fruitful believer to backslide and lose his privilege of fellowship and service.* During times in your life when you have not walked with Christ, what emotions have you experienced? My former BSF teaching leader Kaye Graves once said, *There is nothing more miserable than a Believer out of fellowship with God.*
- On pages 152-153 Dr. Swindoll lists four experiences that result from our having an abiding walk in Christ as reflected in John 15:7-8. As you read this list, what thoughts come to mind? Are there other results not listed here (even if they are not explicitly expressed in the John passage)?
  - Prayers are answered
  - God is glorified
  - Love is stimulated
  - Joy will overflow