



Medical care Vs Spiritual—What's better?

Which is better? What do you want to do? Over the years there has been a heated debate in the body of Christ about getting medical help versus believing God for non-medical healing.

I have heard a preacher say that if you go get medical help you are not believing God. If not expounded upon, this statement. Sometimes we ministers have a tendency of preaching personal convictions as the Word and we put people in unintended bondage to follow strictly what we believe even when it is a personal conviction. Personal convictions are not doctrine and so are opinions. When such are shared from a platform, they need to qualify as such, or else some people get misled.

Our default needs to be believing God for the supernatural before we seek medical help, not the other way around. It is wrong to seek medical help and then seek God. God's best is His supernatural provision. We need to program ourselves to default on the spiritual and supernatural, before the physical or medical.

People have thrown away their pills believing that they do not need medication because they are in faith believing God. This is dumb. You should never do such unless you have personally heard from the Lord and are convinced, He has spoken to you.

I know of a spirit-filled preacher and medical doctor in the States that will tell you that this is so wrong. He has a clinic that he operates on basis of God's Word. He asks people what they want and where their faith is and does not talk anyone out of getting medicine (drugs) if that is where their faith is.

What is the best? What is best is what God leads you to use. If God speaks to you to take medical drugs and instead you choose to believe for supernatural healing, you could die. Why? Because you may not be at the faith level that would believe for supernatural healing and God, knowing that recommended what He knows will work for you based on where you are at that point in time.

The best form is not medical or spiritual, but what the Lord tells you to do. What you do when believing for healing is down to the leading of the Lord, not necessarily which method you use. Hearing God and being led by Him is your remedy. Going to the doctor and standing on the Word is all down to believing God. Who your faith and trust is in. You can go to the doctor, yet you are trusting God, not the doctor.

I know many powerful men of God that used medical help and they are alive. It is not a sin to seek medical help. It is sin to seek and take an approach that is not the direction of the Lord whether medical help or Supernatural spiritual help.

I love believing God for supernatural intervention and not using medical help, but if this is the only approach I take, I could die before my time. So, what I do is ask God for direction and leadership regarding which approach I should take. There was a time when I only believed God for supernatural healing and never visited a doctor for about 13 years, but over the years I have become more flexible and changed my tune to being led by God rather than setting a single way to approach healing and recovery. When my son needed surgery, I had peace from God to get it done through the doctors or medical help. When he needed oxygen, I did the same thing.

I heard a story about a man of God who had a heart attack two times. The first time he went to the Lord and the Lord spoke to him to exercise, take care of His physical body, and eat well but the second time he heard God tell him to have open-heart surgery. When he went back to church, he was criticized as some believed if you are in faith, you should never see a doctor. For them, you had to receive only via the supernatural.

In which one of the two situations was he operating in faith? Is it when he did not need to go to the doctor believing God supernaturally or is it the time when he went in and had heart surgery? The answer is both! Faith is neither believing God to receive supernaturally nor is it just going to the doctor. Faith is simply hearing and responding to God. If we are not following His leading in that specific situation, we are not in faith. He came back and said, "My doctrine is living! Praise the Lord. I'm more useful to God alive than dead." This is a powerful insight that I believe a lot of folks need to learn. Again, some things might require natural healing while others may require supernatural healing. Simply put, we have to hear from Abba Father.

According to your faith, not mine

Mathew 9:2, 22, 29 "And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. 22 "But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour." 29 "Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you."

- a) Mathew 15:28 *"Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."*
- b) Mark 5:34 *"And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."*
- c) Mark 10:52 *"And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way."*
- d) Luke 7:19, 50 *"And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole. 50 "And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.*
 - i) Notice He did not say thy "works", or thy good deeds, has saved thee.
 - ii) If works could save, we would have no need for Jesus.
- e) Luke 18:41-43 *"Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God."*

In the New Testament, we do not receive from God according to how good we are. We receive from Him according to our faith in the Lord Jesus. You might be better than me or your neighbor, but you cannot receive based on your goodness. Without Jesus, none of us can receive a thing from God.

If you have not noticed yet, Jesus did not have a one-size fits all approach to healing for every person He encountered. He switched things up quite a bit. Why? One of the reasons was that each person was at a different level in their faith journey. He was not going to have one believe for a private jet before they could believe God for a car. No matter the ambition, they are not there in faith they will not receive such.

Key things to note:

1. Don't copy-paste other peoples' actions. It will hurt you. Get your own direction from the Lord.
2. Multiple Ways to receive healing: Medical vs Supernatural

There is more than one method to obtain healing. All these avenues are to be used as one hears from the Lord. Hearing from the Lord on which direction to take is the most important approach.

Prayer:

- a) Personal prayer
- b) Cooperate prayer
- c) Laying on of hands
- d) Anointing with oil—The prayer of faith is what saves the sick not the oil.
- e) Praying for others.
- f) Taking your authority in the name of Jesus.

Gifts of the Spirit:

- a) Gifts of the Spirit (Word of knowledge, word of wisdom, gifts of healing, working of miracles, etc.)
- b) Creative miracle. Example: Lady who had no uterus. Had triplets! Creative miracle.

Thanksgiving:

- a) As we praise and worship the Lord
- b) Giving thanks to the Lord.
- c) Physical prudence:
- d) Change of diet, exercise
- e) Physical sleep and rest
- f) Change of lifestyle, spiritual rest (Hebrews 4:1-11), or even taking Holy Communion.

Seeking Medical help:

- a) Medication (Doctor) or surgery.

Word:

- a) Speaking the word of God over yourself
- b) Renewing your mind (Studying God's word and getting revelation).
- c) Casting care upon the Lord (1 Peter 5:7):

3. The pill or medication

You can take a pill or drug but not have faith in it. Pills/tablets do not heal. Healing is the doing of the Lord. It may come one way or another but praise God. Satan wants you dead at all costs. He is not in the healing business. Witchcraft is a lie.

The best doctrine on healing is being alive. If you are going to believe God without any pills and not die, Hallelujah. No problem, but if you die, your doctrine has holes in it. The person who took pills and stayed alive is in a better place and it has worked for him.

Example:

I know of a man of God who was a supernatural believer in healing without all these pills and stuff, but he came to a point when he was given a few days to live, and he heard God tell him to take the course of action he never takes that often. It was the route of a doctor, chemo, and or surgery and the man is alive. He heard God and was not shy to explore that option. He was not concerned about what people could and would think. He wanted to live and was going to follow the direction of the Lord.

4. In all things, we should encourage people to take time to seek the Lord and follow His instructions for them, especially concerning physical healing. There are always different manifestations that come via an instant or gradual process, and there might be different instructions and directions from the Lord to each individual, but the same positive end results. He might use the gifts of the Spirit through a healing evangelist. He might tell you to go to the Word. He might tell you to go see a doctor or perhaps call elders for prayer. He might tell you only to go to fellow believers. God will use all these means, and many others, based on where a person is in faith.
5. Never attempt to act on the faith of others. What you are acting on must be real and genuine to you in your heart, not your head, and not someone else's. Is it real to you yet? Many people get in trouble trying to mimic another person's actions birthed according to their own faith. We must operate in faith unfeigned (sincere and genuine—1 Timothy 1:5).
6. When God shows you the means to receive your healing, you will be peaceful about taking that direction, even if it might look like you are not operating in this so-called "BIG" faith. The way God leads someone else is not necessarily the way He is to lead you. Seek God for yourself and follow the instructions that He gives you.
7. We should not be worried about what others think of us if we go to the doctor. The most important thing is to understand where your own faith is and hear clearly what God is leading you to do. You must do what He is telling you and never worry if some think you are unscriptural for not getting supernatural healing. I believe the

best doctrine when it comes to healing is LIVING. My doctrine is living! Praise the Lord. I'm more useful to God alive than dead.

8. Going to the doctor or taking medicine does not violate your faith nor is it a sin unless God specifically tells you not to do that and you do so anyway. If that's where your faith is and it's what God is leading you to do, then do it. God and medical doctors have the same goal. They are working towards the same result – the restoration of health to the sick. True, one is better than the other, but it's all for the better cause of living. Since we are all at different levels of faith, we must stick to what we can handle at that time and keep moving on from there. Today, we might go to the doctor, but tomorrow, we might believe God for supernatural healing without the assistance of medical care.
9. Again, God meets people where they are, not where you are as a minister or preacher. We must encourage people in their faith and where they are. Act on what you have faith for. Preachers and ministers should help people identify where they are spiritually and what they believe and have faith for. If you are a minister, be careful not to push your faith on those who are not yet demonstrating the same levels of faith as you are for their healing. Find out where they are spiritually and what they want God to do for them. Jesus often asked questions to know where people's faith was. For example:
 - i) *Wilt thou be made whole? John 5:5-9.*
 - ii) *Believe ye that I am able to do this? Matthew 9:27-29.*
 - iii) *What do you want me to do for you? Mark 10:46-52.*
 - iv) *Lord if thou wilt, thou can make me whole. Matthew 8:2-3, Luke 5:12-13.*

An admonition to ministers:

As you are ministering to someone, ask questions. What do you expect to happen when I pray for you? How do you see that play out? How far are you willing to believe God for healing?

Your faith as a minister cannot be a substitute for another person's faith. People do not receive according to YOUR faith, but according to their faith. When it comes to ministering healing to people, do not attribute your faith to them. Unless it is a special gift of healings in operation by the Spirit of God, the people we are ministering to will not receive healing according to our faith, but according to their own faith.

God always meets people where they are. Therefore, to become good representatives and ministers of the Lord, we must also meet people where they are in faith, not where we are. This is not to say that we should not encourage people to step out in faith, but we should

never pressure them to step out and act according to our faith. Our healing will be manifested according to our own faith (Matthew 9:29 and 8:13).

Rich Kanyali