

## Devotion for Epiphany 5

### Psalm 147:1-12

**Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise Him!**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the exiles of Israel.  
He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

**He determines the number of stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power;  
His understanding has no limit.**

The Lord sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground.  
Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp.

**He covers the sky with clouds; He supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.**

He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call.

**His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man.**

The Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love.  
Extol the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen*

### 1Corinthians 9:1-27

***Free to serve according to the law of Christ***

How do we know many apostles married?

What is the difference between the law of God and the law of Christ?

For what purpose is Paul willing to surrender his rights?

### Mark 1:29-39

***Jesus begins His healing ministry***

What is significant about the way Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law?

Why did the people wait until Sundown to come to Jesus for healing?

What did Jesus identify as the most important aspect of His ministry?

### **“Without a Word”**

After teaching in the Synagogue at Capernaum, where His words left the people astonished, Jesus goes to the home of Simon Peter. They find Peter's mother-in-law ill with a fever. Jesus heals her. Nothing unusual about that, Jesus healed many people. He said the word and people were made well, demons were cast out and the dead were raised. What is significant is this time, He doesn't even say a word. He takes her hand, lifts her up and the fever is gone. Jesus doesn't have to say a word, because He is the Word.

When the apostles and the prophets gave a miraculous sign to show that they spoke the word of the Lord, they needed to pray and say the word. They were servants of the word and spoke the word, as those sent by the Lord. Jesus is different. Jesus is the Son of God and by healing a woman without a word, He shows that He is the Word. On another occasion a different woman was healed of a chronic condition in a similar way, simply by touching Jesus. Power went out from Him and she was healed. There is power in the word. Jesus is the Word!

In Jesus there is power to heal a sick body. In Jesus there is power to heal a broken spirit and bring a person to wholeness in relationship with God. In Jesus there is power to withstand trial and overcome temptation. Jesus said *“I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* Jesus spoke the word with authority, because He is the Word. Jesus' words give healing to body and soul in time and life for eternity. We treasure Jesus' words above all else. His words give life. He is the word of life.

**Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul (Public Domain)**

**Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let all in me combine.  
To aid my tongue to bless His name, whose favour is divine.**

**Oh, bless the Lord, my soul. Nor let His mercies lie.  
Forgotten in unthankfulness. And without praises die.**

**The Lord forgives my sins. And He relieves my pain;  
The Lord has healed my sicknesses. And made me whole again.**

**He crowns my life with love. He ransoms from the grave;  
He that redeemed my soul from hell, has sovereign power to save.**

**He fills the poor with good; He gives the sufferers rest;  
The Lord has judgements for the proud, Relief for those oppressed.**

**His works and laws and ways, He made through Moses known.  
But showed the world His loving heart, In Christ, his only Son.**

**Prayer**

Dearest Lord Jesus open our ears to hear your voice. Open our hearts to listen to your words. Strengthen our faith by your word and increase our faithfulness to your word. Open our lips to speak to others your words. Amen

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen**

**The Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

**Benediction**

**Isaiah 35:10**

***“And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”***

**Bible Knowledge Quiz**

What physical characteristic made Absalom (David's son) notable?

What did Delilah do to rob Samson of his strength?

What did Paul say was a woman's glory?

**Answers to last week's quiz**

Annas and Caiaphas (Luke 3:2 and John 18:12-24)

Sin and death. (Hebrews 5:1-3 and 7:23)

Himself. (Hebrews 7:27)





