



# Solving Problems Close To You

**“And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee” (Exodus 23:25).**

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Peter has left all and followed Jesus in Ministry, but there was a problem at home that could impact on him if not addressed on time. There is time to let the dead bury their dead, and there is time to nib issues in the bud to stop hindrance.

Sickness is a common problem that has plagued humanity since the fall of Adam and Eve, but God in His love has not left us without a remedy. In this lesson, we find Jesus demonstrating power and authority over sickness. He still lives today to exercise similar power over the sick through believers who are “carriers of Jesus”.

“And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. 15 And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them” (Matthew 8:14-15)

“And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her. 31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them” (Mark 1:29-31)

“And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her. 39 And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them” (Luke 4:38-39).

We learn from this story, a number of lessons that God want us to apply personally and in our service to one another:

1) From the synagogue Jesus went to Simon Peter's house (vs 38). His public ministry at the synagogue was followed by individual ministry in Peter's house. From the synagogue, he did not retire to His “home” for rest, but went rather to another field for labour. Being like Christ will make believers to “cast

**“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed” (1 Peter 2:24).**

their bread upon all waters” (Ecclesiastes 11:1); and to be “instant in season and out of season” (2 Timothy 4:1-5).

- 2) Jesus went to where there was a problem to solve - Simon's mother in law was “taken with a great fever” (vs 38). The needs around us should be our motivation for Christian service. The fever was great, but not greater than the power of Jesus.
- 3) “And anon they tell him of her” (vs 30). There was no waste of time in telling Jesus of the need. There were many things to talk about - past, present or future, but the need of Peter's mother in law took the priority.
- 4) Jesus stood over her and rebuked the fever (vs 39). Following Jesus's example will produce the types of results Jesus got. Words are powerful. Rebuking the specific sickness is essential for it to depart.
- 5) “He touched her hand” (vs 15) anointing is imparted through a spiritual touch. This made the fever to leave her immediately (vs 15, 31, 39).
- 6) “He took her by the hand and lifted her up” (vs 31). Although the fever had left her, she needed physical help to get up.
- 7) She not only got healed, but she arose and ministered unto them (vs 15, 31, 39). Healing brings restoration back into service.

The early apostles followed in the steps of Jesus and got wonderful healings and miracles. Today, we can experience the same, if only we will follow in “His Steps”. Never forget that charity begins at home! Start with those closest to you, but don't stop there.