What About Healing? What Does "In the Name of the Lord" Mean?

I. Introduction

- A. James 5:13-16a (NAS) ¹³Is anyone among you suffering? Then he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. ¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; ¹⁵and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. ^{16a}Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed.
 - i. "Elders" - "those who watch over you; those who <u>shepherd</u> you; those who care for you; those who <u>minister</u> to you; those who spiritually guide you"
 - 2. To be everything God created you to be, you have to get <u>involved</u> in the life of the <u>church!</u>

B. Join a small group!

- I. Most people in our culture do not have a meaningful relational network of friends around them.
- 2. You have to take the initiative to do this!

II. Three Essential Truths to Understand:

- A. When you become a follower of Jesus, you become part of the **Body** of Jesus Christ!
- B. A commitment to Christ means a commitment to His Body!
- C. You are called to do the works of Jesus!
 - I. John 14:12 (NAS) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father."

III. What Does "In the Name of the Lord" Mean?

- A. James 5:14 (NAS) Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.
- B. Acts 19:13-16 (NAS) ¹³But also some of the Jewish exorcists, who went from place to place, attempted to name over those who had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "I adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches." ¹⁴Seven sons of one Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. ¹⁵And the evil spirit answered and said to them, "I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?" ¹⁶And the man, in whom was the evil spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.
- C. "In the Name of the Lord" means coming as His representative!

IV. Does Healing Always Happen When We Do This?

- A. James 5:15a (NAS) The prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick.
- B. To pray at all means to pray "the prayer of faith!"

V. The Already vs. the Not Yet of the Kingdom of God

- A. Mark I:15 (NAS) "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

 I. The Kingdom of God is "already" here on earth!
- B. Matthew 6:10 (NAS) 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'
- C. Revelation 21:4 (NAS) "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."
- D. James 5:16a (NAS) Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed.
 - I. "Healed" - "to be made whole - physically and spiritually"
 - 2. I John 1:9 (NAS) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 - 3. If you get that sin out into the <u>light</u>, its power begins to be broken over you!
 - 4. I've never seen anyone go through the process of receiving ministry and not benefit from it.

VI. Conclusion