Healing Testimonies

Lisa Paxton, Hannah Terradez, Mike Hoesch, Lance Weldgen & Jamie Scott

There is nothing more powerful than a miracle testimony. Outlined below are people who have been healed of fibromyalgia, cerebral palsy, a malignant skin tumor, a congenital heart defect, as well as an undiagnosed condition.

At our Helpline, prayer ministers often pray with callers for healing. As a result, we receive good reports of God's faithfulness. We want to build your faith by sharing testimonies of God's healing power.

In January, a woman called to request prayer for her son who had been shot in the head. She later called back to report that her son is back home and doing great with no side effects. Recently, a man called to praise God for his healing. He had previously prayed with a Helpline minister about a tumor. The tumor immediately began shrinking and was almost gone after two weeks.

A woman called to agree in prayer for a baby born with viral pneumonia. The baby was on 100 percent oxygen and was not eating. She reported back that the baby was healed, eating on his own, and going home soon. The doctors and nurses all said it was a miracle.

One caller reported, "A prayer minister prayed with me in February for healing of two herniated disks. The prayer minister told me how to pray and believe. Two nights ago at church, I received my healing. I am completely healed. I took off running at church with no pain, and I couldn't do that before.

The Power of a Testimony

Saint Francis of Assisi said, "Preach the Gospel to everyone and use words if necessary." What a profound statement! I believe he was saying that a living example of the Gospel is more effective than words. Some people may argue with you about doctrine or the interpretation of Scripture, but unless they believe you're a liar, they can't argue with your testimony.

"If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him." John 10:37-38

And in Mark 16:17-18, we read what Jesus spoke to His disciples after commanding them to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

Then, in verse 20, Mark went on to say, "And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen."

Listed below are five stories of God's healing power. I believe that as you read these stories, faith will build in your heart. Even if you don't need healing personally, you know someone who does, and they need your prayer of faith.

Lisa Paxton's Testimony

One of the most miraculous testimonies ever heard at AWM is the story of Lisa Paxton, the wife of Cecil Paxton, former director of our Helpline prayer center. Lisa was born with cerebral palsy. She was affected in her legs and in

her eyes. She had double vision and couldn't focus with one eye. She could not walk until she was about nine years old, when she began walking with the aid of braces and crutches. She also struggled with dyslexia, a learning disability.

At 16, she was living with her family on a farm near Duluth, Minnesota. Her older sister came to visit and gave her a word from God. She told Lisa, "Before I leave, you will receive Jesus as your Savior, be baptized in the Holy Spirit, and God will begin to heal your body." Lisa had some church background from Lutheran and Catholic churches, but she didn't understand what her sister was talking about. She began to read a tract her sister gave her about heaven and hell; and she began to question God.

One day, she left the farmhouse and went up a hill behind a barn to be alone with her questions. She began to cry out to God saying, "If You are real, You have to show me." She knew she was making a decision to turn away from God if He didn't show Himself to her. God gave her an answer immediately. As she walked across a field, she was hit by the power of God. She fell and landed on her back and was pinned to the ground. Not sure of what was happening, she cried out to God, begging Him not to kill her. When she got up, she began to cry from deep inside, and the peace of God flooded her. She knew she was forgiven. As she opened her mouth to thank God, she began to speak in tongues.

After her dramatic salvation experience, God began a tremendous work in Lisa's life. She graduated from high school, which was not expected because of her learning disabilities. She then went to college to study communications.

One day she passed out during a class and woke up in an ambulance. She was having severe muscle spasms, which is a symptom of cerebral palsy. She was hospitalized and put in traction to keep her body stable. There was extensive damage to the vertebrae and any movement could cause paralysis. Her brother began to call her daily, telling her that Jesus would heal her and she wouldn't need surgery on her back. He had a dream one day and a vision from God telling him that Lisa would go to Christ for the Nations Institute for one year, and then God would send her to a foreign country to give her testimony. Lisa didn't understand because she was on her back and unable to move. Lisa eventually reached a point where she knew that she didn't want to be in this condition any longer. She told God that she would rather die than live like this.

At a family dinner after her brother's wedding, Lisa was sitting propped in a corner of the room. A couple came into the room, walked over to Lisa, and the man said, "So you're the one who interrupted my vacation." The couple had been on a vacation in Canada, and God told them to go to Kansas and pray for Lisa.

Although they didn't know her, the man saw her face in a vision. God had given the man specific instructions to fly to Wichita. There a man with a similar vision met him and drove him to the wedding dinner, where he found Lisa. He said that God sent him to lay hands on Lisa because God wanted to heal her. As he stood behind Lisa to pray, she began to feel heat, like hot oil, that started at her head and went throughout her body. Then the man grabbed her hand and said, "Rise up in the name of Jesus." When he said those words, Lisa was immediately in a standing position, and she began to take small steps. The pain was gone and she was walking. Her mother was astonished when she looked up and saw Lisa walking.

Lisa's healing is still in progress today. While working as a prayer minister, her left eye was healed. She now sees clearly and sees colors where she couldn't before. Lisa's complete testimony is now available in booklet and audio form.

Hannah Terradez Testimony

The doctors sent her home to die, BUT GOD...! Many of you may remember the testimony of Hannah Terradez. She is the little girl who was healed in Walsall, England, in 2006. She was three years old at the time but only the size of a nine-month-old baby. She had a problem that kept her from eating solid food of any kind. It was actually

poisoning her body. A tube was then inserted into her stomach, but that failed as well. (Watch the video of her miraculous story at www.awmi.net/extra/healing.)

But God had a plan. What seemed almost insignificant at the time turned out to be the beginning of a miracle. Hannah's parents had rented a car to take her to the hospital. The car was only equipped with a cassette player, so when they stopped by Hannah's grandmother's house to drop off the other kids, they asked if she had any teaching cassettes they could listen to. She found one of my cassette tapes in the back of a drawer, where it had been for fifteen years. Hannah's grandfather hadn't listened to it, because he couldn't handle my Texan accent.

Ashley and Carlie Terradez, desperate to learn something that would help their daughter, listened on the way to the hospital, and it changed their lives. The Lord lit a fire on the inside of them that led to the complete healing of their daughter and a totally different direction for their lives. After Hannah's healing, they enrolled at Charis Bible College (CBC) in England. They graduated, moved to America, and now help run the third-year CBC program in Colorado Springs. Praise the Lord!

I've talked to Ashley about this on a number of occasions, and he said the teaching on that cassette was exactly what he needed. Since then, he has listened to many of my messages, but he said that first tape was different than any other. It was like I took everything the Lord had shown me and put it on that one tape. I didn't go into great depth on any one teaching but just gave an overview of dozens of life-changing truths.

Ashley and Carlie were in a crisis situation. They didn't have time to study everything in depth the way they have since. But that summary of major points overwhelmed their unbelief and gave them the hope they needed in order to see Hannah healed. This was like getting a drink from a fire hydrant. It blew away their fears and caused hope to come alive.

The reason I shared the background to Hannah's healing is because I have just released a new book that can do for you—and thousands of other people—what that tape did for Ashley and Carlie. It's called *Sharper Than a Two-Edged Sword*, a compilation, or summary, of sixteen of my books. Each one of the sixteen chapters is like the *CliffsNotes* version of an entire book.

Faith, Not Works

Mike Hoesch didn't pay much attention to the small sore on his chest. It started out as a minor annoyance—an itch that wouldn't go away. But after a year, he decided to get it checked out.

"When I first walked into the doctor's office, I wasn't afraid, just curious as to what was causing this sore," remembers Mike. "But the doctor took one look, and the next thing I knew, he had me scheduled for an emergency surgery." Mike wasn't clear about the diagnosis at first—malignant neoplasm—and asked his wife to research it while he returned to work.

His wife called him at work with the layman's terminology: "malignant skin tumor." A spirit of fear instantly gripped him. "My pastor told me not to do anything in fear, so I canceled my surgery until I could get peace," says Mike. Mike's doctor called him back immediately, warning him of the seriousness of his condition and letting him know that if he refused surgery, he would remove himself as his doctor.

This drove Mike further into fear, but deep down, he knew God could heal him. He turned to God's Word. He searched the Word looking for things he could do to get God to move on his behalf. "I was taught that everything God did for me was based on my performance. As soon as I thought I'd finally measured up, the bar got raised, and I had to do more."

As Mike struggled with confusion and discouragement, the lesion changed into a tumor and began growing at an

alarming rate. "I was told that it could metastasize throughout my body, and that's what began happening," says Mike. "For the next five years, it clung to me and sucked the life right out of me. I grew so weak, I had to quit my job, give up the business I started, and at one point, even hold my head up to eat."

Mike had given up hope, but then a friend brought him Andrew's *You've Already Got It!* CD series. "I was reluctant to listen because I'd been taught that our ministry was the only one with the truth." It was a miracle that he listened, but once he did, the message resonated with his spirit.

"God had been trying to share with me that when Jesus went to the cross, He purchased my healing. There wasn't anything else I had to do but believe and receive. When I heard Andrew teach this and looked up the scriptures for myself, I was convinced that it really was for me.

I finally understood that I'd never be able to receive as long as I thought there was some other work I had to do."

Once Mike received the revelation of healing, no one could convince him otherwise: "I noticed after about a month, the tumor got smaller. I wasn't surprised, because I knew I was healed. Within six months' time, it was completely gone. I learned, like Andrew says in "A Sure Foundation," that if you have God's Word in you, you'll always have something to stand on that won't wash away in the storm."

Instantly Healed

Reeling in pain and loaded up on medication to numb his body, Lance Weldgen walked gingerly into his local coffee shop, laptop under his arm. Typically, after a couple of hours, the pain in his body forced him to go home and lie flat on his back. His doctors called his condition *fibromyalgia*. Lance called it torture. With no known cure, the best Lance could hope for was temporary relief through the seventeen different medications he took.

Lance noticed a couple—Mike and Rose Gonyer—sitting across the room, studying their Bibles. He mustered his strength to walk over and strike up a conversation. As Lance returned to his seat, the Gonyers noticed his pain. "I went over to him and told him I could tell he was in a lot of pain," recalls Mike. "I asked if he would share what was going on. After he told me, I invited him to Charis Bible College, where Rose and I were students."

The intense pain kept Lance pinned to his bed and away from CBC the following day. But the next day, Lance's wife, Gerri, got him up at five a.m., determined he would make it to the school.

After attending four classes, Lance was led into an empty classroom where Mike and Rose began praying for him. "After explaining what God's Word says about healing, Rose said that God put it on her heart to ask if I felt worthy—valuable enough—to receive His healing," says Lance. "For the first time, I realized that this had been my problem all along."

Lance wasn't prepared for what happened next: "Mike and Rose began praying for me—but not the kind of prayers I'd ever heard before. They spoke directly to my body, telling the fibromyalgia and pain to leave, and then rebuked a spirit of sickness." Mike then told Lance to stand up and asked how he felt. "I noticed I didn't have to grab onto anything to stand," recalls Lance. Lance stood straight up and mentally scanned his body. One thing was noticeably missing—the pain!

Lance is now living a pain-free, abundant life as a full-time counselor at a local rescue mission. He's using the same Holy Spirit authority that got him healed to set others free of addictions and sickness.

A Broken Heart

Jamie Scott lay on the hospital bed, holding her brand-new baby girl and feeling amazed at the miracle of childbirth. Her daughter looked perfect. But after several minutes, Jamie and the nurses observed that the baby wasn't

maintaining her natural color and kept turning white. The nurses raced her daughter to the Newborn Intensive Care Unit.

Nearly two hours had passed when the doctor returned to Jamie with grim news: Her daughter was missing a rib, a couple of major arteries, and the left side of her heart. The doctor transferred the baby to another hospital that specialized in cardiology. Good thing for Jamie, a friend had told her about Andrew Wommack Ministries just a few months prior, and Jamie had been learning truths about God's Word ever since.

"When my friend first told me about AWM, I went to the website to see what Andrew taught," says Jamie. "I had been raised in church, but had never heard teaching like this. I ordered several books and CDs, including The True Nature of God, which set me free in my relationship with Him. I then began watching Andrew on television where I heard his teaching God Wants You Well, and I ordered the book A Better Way to Pray."

When the doctor's report came, she had the confidence to stand on God's Word: "For the first time I felt I really knew who God was," says Jamie. "At that moment, I remembered Andrew saying how we have the power to speak God's Word to our bodies. I laid my hands on her and commanded her heart to be whole, and I declared that she was healed by the stripes of Jesus."

God's peace instantly washed over Jamie, even though she was looking at her daughter's white-colored skin and a jumble of tubes connected to her tiny body. As Jamie returned to her hospital room, the Holy Spirit spoke three words to her: "Watch Me work."

The following day, Jamie spoke to the cardiologist, who had written a book on heart defects. He said that because the baby's heart was not developed enough to support arteries, there was no guarantee that any type of surgery would be successful. Jamie and her husband waited and prayed, continuing to stand on God's Word that their baby had been made whole.

Still in the hospital herself, Jamie wasn't able to see her baby. But the next day, she spoke to a nurse who told her that her daughter's condition had changed the night before. After viewing ultrasounds, they now saw a heart where there was no heart before and arteries where there had been none. Jamie hung up the phone and, with tears, exclaimed to her husband, "They see her heart!"

After four days in NICU, Jamie's daughter was moved to the preemie unit and, by the end of that week, sent home with her parents. While the doctors couldn't explain what happened, they assured Jamie that her baby was 100 percent whole. But Jamie already knew that based on God's Word. In looking back on the experience, Jamie says with certainty, "If I didn't learn the teachings about healing that I received through AWM, my daughter would not be here today."

There are so many lessons to be learned from each of these stories, and these are just the tip of iceberg. My staff has documented close to 50 healing testimonies. Each one is a miraculous and powerful story. They will build your faith to receive your own healing and help you minister healing to others. To view these healing testimonies, go to Healing Journeys (www.awmi.net/video/series/healing-journeys/)