

## **BEST PRACTICES IN HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY**

*Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective (James 5:13-16).*

### **Personal Preparation**

Personal prayer and study  
On a journey of healing  
Communal worship and reception of Holy Communion  
Good hygiene

### **Preparing the space**

Prayerful space  
Minimize distractions  
Prayer Team prays together including Prayer Before Ministry Time  
Tissues, temperature, comfortable seating

### **Prayer Time**

- Greeting, hospitality
- Introductions (remember the name!)
- “How may we pray for you today?”
- Listening to the person and to the Lord
- Ask: “Is it ok to lay a hand on your shoulder (head) as we pray?  
Anoint you with oil?”  
Encourage person to relax/receive/deep breath; let them know there will be times of silence and that we will ask how they are doing
- Prayer: Come Holy Spirit. Wait and watch. Keep eyes open!
- Ask: “What’s happening as we pray?”
- Anoint head (hands) with oil in the sign of the cross.
- Lay hands gently: head, shoulders. DO NOT massage! Be still!
- Listen to the Lord for what he may say to you about how to pray.
- Be sure to pray for what the person has requested. Pray whatever else you receive and discern you are called to pray at this time. Avoid praying paragraphs!
- Check in to see what’s happening with the person and other team member(s).
- Closing in prayer: Seal what God has done.
- Invite back to receive more prayer if this has been helpful
- Give any other post-prayer counsel that seems good. (Scripture, etc.)

### **Conclusion of Ministry**

- Debrief, give one another feedback
- Offer cleansing prayer (“cutting free”) for team, give thanks for what God is doing; pray for protection
- Report any issues to the ministry leader
- If you notice your own need for prayer, then seek ministry for yourself.

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