

The Bridge Healing Prayer Centre

Report - Feb '09 by Alun Leppitt

The Prayer Centre Opened in June 2007 and is hosted by Bridge Christian Fellowship at the Kings Church Centre in Lordswood, Southampton. We are extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of Simon Orton, the church and leadership of Kings Church for their generosity in releasing the Centre to us every Tuesday evening.

The ministry team is led by Donna Leppitt and is currently made up of members of Bridge who have done the Global Awakening Prayer Ministry Training with Holly Miller or Donna's own training course. In addition many of the Bridge Team have also been through the Healing Rooms Training by Cal Pearce and are part of the ministry team there.

The Healing Prayer Centre Vision

As many of us have done the Healing Rooms training and been actively involved in the Southampton Healing rooms for many years we had a good idea of what we wanted to achieve with our centre. We love the fact that anyone can come in and a team will pray and contend for healing and breakthrough for individuals as long as it takes.

We have also noticed the impact of "Soaking Prayer" which was inspired by Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship. This type of waiting on God is not new but has touched and changed hearts in our fellowship. We took resources and inspiration from these sources but realised that in doing the ministry of Jesus, God is far more interested in seeing the person completely whole than just mending a headache so to speak. So, we are keen to offer words of encouragement or personal prophecy to those visiting the centre. These are often the keys to unlocking situations that set the captives free.

What Happens?

The team meet 1 hour prior to opening to set up the 2-3 prayer rooms & worship and pray together. We offer a waiting area and a soaking room so after our visitor/s arrive and complete a prayer request form they have the option to 'rest' in the soaking room. We have found guests often have a wonderful encounter with the Father's love whilst soaking and many times people collected by a team member leave the room with tears running down their cheeks, hearts softened.

In the prayer room we have 2-3 team members who pray over the form prior to collecting our guest and hear from God what to pray for specifically. Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing and He only said what He heard the Father say. We try to bring what we feel God is saying in that moment and pray accordingly in response to the request of the visitor. Prophecies are recorded on tape and we offer pamphlets with helpful teaching scriptures and follow up information.

Whatever happens the people who visit us always receive love and kindness we are thrilled that we had had several salvations (even though not many non-Christians have visited us yet) we have witnessed and have reports of many healings and a few extraordinary miracles.

Statistics & Testimonies

In the first 12 months from June '07 to June '08 the Bridge Healing Prayer Centre was open on 48 occasions and we had 172 prayer sessions in that time.

Since June '08 we have already prayed for 120 people on 20 occasions, so numbers are up on the first year so far.

On average we see between 3-5 people during the 1 hour we are open but some evenings we have had as many as 14 people through!

We have witnessed emotional, physical and spiritual healing. There is a real sense of 'Isaiah 61' in action as we do the ministry of Jesus in a very practical way.

Donna has collated a testimony file, but a few highlights are:

Handwritten testimony sheet from A D:

"I came with I.B.S. symptoms, prayed with the team. One had a picture of an umbilical cord and maybe an ungodly soul tie. We related it to my firstborn and my worrying too much about him. We prayed, I said sorry to God for thinking I could do a better job than him and felt a huge release with the pain shifting as if I was giving birth. All pain went and I feel great!"

Handwritten testimony, in the Healing Prayer Centre file, from Aileen McCulloch (Age 13)

At the beginning of April 2007, I dislocated my knee. This resulted in needing two surgeries - the second surgery leading to the need to use crutches. As my knee improved my back worsened. My back began to become painful in March 2008. By May I couldn't feel down my right leg and I had a severe scoliosis but I still didn't know the cause of this despite seeing doctors. I had terrible headaches and my back was incredibly sore and I couldn't get off of chairs or up and down stairs. My Physio physically couldn't straighten me out either.

My Gran come down from Scotland to visit us and to look after me as I couldn't go to school. I had missed almost a whole year of school. My Gran introduced us to the church. (Bridge Christian Fellowship and the Southampton Outpouring meetings).

On Tuesday 17th June me and my mum went to The Bridge Healing Prayer Centre, the following Saturday I felt sensations down my right leg like sparks of electricity which was the first time I had felt my leg in months. I went to pick my Gran up from church on Sunday 22nd June. We stayed for prayer and I saw my leg grow, so did the prayer team. When I stood I was straight which I couldn't do before. On Tuesday 24th I went to the healing rooms again and a member of the prayer team asked if my jaw was sore and I said yes. They prayed and I felt my jaw realigned. After this I could get off of chairs and go up and down stairs.

On Saturday 28th my Gran prayed off the last of my pain. On the 8th July I made it back to school.

Testimony sheet, in Healing Prayer Centre file, from Faith Allen said

"I have had an ovarian cyst for about one year. It was very painful continually. I had various investigations and seen by scan and specialists. The outcome was nothing more they could do for me. After having prayer at the Healing Rooms I noticed that the pain was gone and I know I am healed. Praise God. No pain for six weeks."

Training & Development

As mentioned, team members undergo training prior to operating in the rooms but we also have them as 'trainees' working alongside our regulars to gain experience and confidence. We have found this is an excellent way to train and develop people as they practice routinely doing the ministry of Jesus. It is a wonderful developing ground for faith, maturity and character. We are enjoying the increased time of sharing testimonies of what has happened outside the rooms at the start of our evenings as this life spills over into the everyday and the ordinary.

Mission

Members of the Healing Prayer Centre team were chosen to go on Global Awakening Mission trips with Holly Miller to Ukraine and Turkey in 2008. They were two quite different trips and each with their own impact.

In Ukraine the team laid hands on lines of literally thousands of people imparting and releasing as the Holy Spirit was poured out. There were also prayer lines for healing where they witnessed many miracles and healings.

To quote Holly Miller in her report on the Ukraine:-“But a very conservative estimate just of the healings we do know about (including platform healings one night) comes to over 120, in only 6 days of actual ministry by a small team of 12 people”.

In Turkey the smaller team ministered to over 35% of the Christians living in Ankara. They also spent a day encouraging and prophesying over the leadership of the host church and holding a healing clinic in the afternoon.

Many significant breakthroughs happened during these times and many healings were instant including: chronic sinus and hearing problems completely healed, back injury healed, painful feet healed, legs growing out and associated back pain disappearing. One case of serious scoliosis (curvature of the spine) in a young woman - dramatically healed as the power of God hit her and her back straightened up in seconds! We also had a follow up doctors report of a serious medically untreatable womb infection cleared up the day after prayer. There was also salvation and deliverance. All glory to Jesus!

Summary

For about an hour a week a small group of faithful people are putting on display kingdom love, grace, peace, life, revelation and power. They offer this kingdom to people from all walks of life, from differing church and un-churched backgrounds. The team's passion is to deliver to our guests everything they would get if Jesus was in the room with them. That pursuit drives us individually into the 'secret place' where we can contend for breakthrough so we can deliver it to those in need.

And our aim this year is to take this into the City with 'Healing on the Streets' and 'Whispers from Heaven' with teams who are keen to show people that God is better than they think and get them to change the way they think, through experience and encounter.

We seek no glory for ourselves because it all belongs to Jesus, we realise we can do nothing on our own but through Him who dwells in us and we give thanks for all He has done, is doing and will do in us and through us.

Alun Leppitt
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