

## **In A Heart-Beat!**

by  
**Steve Trullinger**  
www.fatherstouch.org

Have you ever promised someone that may need your help that you would “be there in a heart-beat” if the need arose? Most of us have made such a pledge to a loved one to assure them that we will not be far off when they need us. We want them to know that they can count on us to respond quickly!

Sometimes we say, “In a heart-beat!” to indicate that we would not waste any time in making a decision (because we have actually already made it!). We want to convey our excitement and/or commitment level when we use this familiar phrase. It adds emphasis to the importance of our statement. “In a heart-beat” has come to mean very quick response or very quick decision-making, with no delay or procrastination. More generally, it implies a very short time interval during which sudden things happen!

What can happen in the space of a heart-beat? The possible answers are many: a sudden catastrophe, a couple falling in love at first glance, a brilliant idea popping into your head, baptism of fire, etc.

Your Father’s heart beats for you. What can happen during one of those beats? Many of us are tempted to become skeptical of God’s intent to move quickly because we have been waiting a long time (sometimes patiently!) for his answer to our plea. Does that mean he can’t or won’t move suddenly? Of course not! Let’s remember his promise through the prophet Isaiah to the nation of Israel:

*“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter -- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear....”*

[Is. 58:6-8]

It is important, however, to also remember that God does not have to operate on *our* timetable:

*“But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness....”*

[2 Pet. 3:8-9a]

We know that the healing power of Jesus often acted very swiftly in numerous documented cases. For instance, he healed a leprous man promptly:

*“A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, ‘Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.’ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. ‘I am willing,’ he said. ‘Be clean!’ Immediately he was cured of his leprosy.”*

[Mt. 8:2-3]

The bleeding woman was healed instantly upon touching Jesus’ cloak:

*“And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, ‘If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.’ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was free from her suffering.”*

[Mk. 5:25-29]

When Jesus was on his way to Jericho, a blind beggar cried out to him for mercy and received his sight instantly:

*“...Jesus asked him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ ‘Lord, I want to see’, he replied. Jesus said to him, ‘Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.’ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God...”*

[Lk. 18:40-43]

When Jesus took the hand of Jairus’ dead daughter and commanded her to get up, she instantly responded:

*“He took her by the hand and said to her, ‘Talitha koum!’ (which means, ‘Little girl, I say to you, get up!’). Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.”*

[Mk. 5:41-42]

A woman who had been crippled by a spirit for 18 years was instantly healed when Jesus laid hands on her:

*“...She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, ‘Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.’ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.”*

[Lk. 13:11-13]

One clear example that instantaneous healings occur through disciples is the story of the beggar crippled from birth that Peter and John encountered at the temple gate Beautiful:

*“When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, ‘Look at us!’ So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. Then Peter said, ‘Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.’ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.”*

[Acts 3:3-8]

Not only was he instantly healed, but God instantly taught him to walk and jump! What about today? Do healings still happen in a heart-beat? God’s word is clear:

*“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”*

[Heb. 13:8]

Here are some “touches” from the Father illustrating the present-day beat of his heart for us.

## Make It Snappy, Lord!

On a business trip to the Northwest just before Christmas a few years ago, one of The Father's Touch team members was conducting a small, informal training of new sales associates in the home of a young woman who graciously agreed to host the impromptu meeting on a Saturday morning, in spite of her not-quite-complete recovery from a bad cold.

After several cups of coffee that morning and a rather long first session, our team member needed desperately to take a restroom break (others did too, so there was a line forming already!)

As he started to dash for the bathroom, he was interrupted in his quest for relief by the groans of the anguished hostess in the kitchen who was holding her ears as she coughed again and again from lingering congestion in her chest. When asked what was wrong, she said her ear infection was causing extreme pain whenever she coughed. She was obviously in a great deal of pain!

For our team member, this was one of those dreaded moments when he just knew that the Lord was going to give him an assignment that didn't quite agree with his plan. Sure enough, the Holy Spirit told him to pray for the woman. "Can't it wait, Lord, until after my restroom break? Please?" "No, pray for her now," came the answer!

What would you do in his shoes? Most of us would be tempted to think that it couldn't be the Lord talking; it must be the devil trying to inflict serious injury in the form of a burst bladder! Visions of a marathon 2-hour healing session were beginning to invade the team member's mind. And he began to wonder who was going to pray for *his* healing!

Wanting to be obedient, but also highly impacted by his urgency, he silently made a demand of the Lord, "OK, Lord, I'll pray now for her, but you're going to have to make it snappy!"

When he asked if he could lay hands on her ears and pray, she nodded in agreement. As he reached for her ears, his hands began to tingle with a familiar presence of healing power and she was delivered from pain instantly when he touched her ears! Then he asked if she needed anything else and she responded that her throat was very sore. That pain also left instantly when he touched her throat! Again he asked if there was anything else, wanting to make sure he finished everything the Lord wanted to do before he made a mad dash for the bathroom! She said her lungs were really congested (in his self-focus he forgot about her lungs!), so he commanded her lungs to be cleared and told her to take a breath. She breathed in freely with no vestige of congestion and exclaimed, "No way!" He said, "Yes way!", gave her a high five and made his dash!

The healing that he thought might take many minutes (in agony - his!) actually took no more than 15 seconds! The Lord did indeed "make it snappy!" And the entire room full of trainees witnessed their first miracle!

When our team member returned from the restroom in a much more relaxed state, he found the hostess sobbing where he had so abruptly left her in the kitchen. She was in shock over the Father's loving touch. As a result of this encounter with the powerful compassion of Jesus, she soon after surrendered her life to her Savior and Lord!

## **Go Tell Your Mama!**

Never doubt the power of a praying Mama! Several years ago in the university office of one of our team members, a student came in to discuss her late term paper just before the Christmas break. She had a valid excuse, relating that she had finally been diagnosed with debilitating Still's Disease which is a very painful auto-immune disorder that had begun to exhibit symptoms in her body when she first came to the university two years before. Her body was swollen due to the effects of the corticosteroids she had to take to suppress her malfunctioning immune system. She was still in obvious pain as she sat across the desk from her professor while they discussed her situation for a few moments.

Prompted by the Holy Spirit, he politely asked her what kind of faith she had. She replied that her mom was a Baptist! When pressed a bit about her *own* faith, she seemed a bit embarrassed when she confessed that she hadn't attended church in two years since starting her studies. He then asked if she believed in the power of prayer. She replied, "Oh, yes! My mama and I pray together on the phone every night! [Her mother lived on the opposite side of the continent!]

Encouraged by the fact that Mama had been praying with and for her daughter, the professor asked if he could pray right then for healing! She nodded and within 10 seconds of exercising authority over the disease in her body, she was delivered of the pain in her neck, back and shoulders and was able to easily move her arms! When she got up, walked around the office and discovered that her legs were also pain-free, she began to sob with joy and amazement!

She was encouraged to go home and immediately call her Mama to let her know that her prayers had been answered!

Two months later, he bumped into her again and could barely recognize her! She had lost about 30 pounds and looked great! She said she was completely pain free and off all medications! God had done an instant work in response to a short prayer added to Mama's stockpile!

## **Finessing the Pharmacist!**

At a home fellowship meeting attended by some of our team members, a guest teacher gave an inspired and passionate message which was based on her newly released book chronicling her wonderful heritage and relationship with her father, a well-respected national church leader in their home country. She had several copies of her book for sale during the coffee and dessert time afterwards and most of the fellowship group were supporting her by their purchases and gladly received her autograph on their copies.

During a lull in the book-signing, the teacher was standing by herself for a moment and one of our team members heard the Lord say that she needed prayer. She indicated that indeed she would welcome prayer because she was in a lot of pain due to her condition called sarcoidosis, which causes difficulty and pain in breathing because of an auto-immune attack against the lungs!

Immediately as the group began to pray for her, she was able to take several deep, uninhibited breaths without any pain whatsoever! She declared her healing and began praising the Lord loudly as everyone else joined in celebrating her deliverance from this "incurable" disease!

She shared that before our prayer with her, she had been planning to go directly to the pharmacy with the proceeds of her book sales in order to purchase the expensive medication she needed to help alleviate the symptoms of this incurable disease. Now that she was healed, she could put the money to better use toward the needs of her family!

## You Didn't Wait For Us to Pray!

One of the principles we teach in our trainings is that God does *not* need us in order to accomplish healings! Yes, he *wants* us to be involved and most often he acts in *response* to our prayers and petitions, but it just seems that sometimes he is, can I say, too *eager* to wait for us to pray. His healing presence is a wonderful experience because people are “spontaneously” healed without any direct prayer for their situation.

At one of our home healing ministry meetings, the team members and guests were well into a wonderful time of worshiping the Lord when a young man showed up late at the door. When he came through the doorway he suddenly stopped, bent over a couple of times to touch his toes and exclaimed, “I’m healed!” The team leader was puzzled and asked, “Of what?” The young man related that he had taken a bad fall down a flight of stairs and severely wrenched his back and he came to the meeting in the expectation that we might pray for him. When he stepped through the doorway he felt a powerful sensation in his back and the pain and stiffness left immediately! Praise God!

On another occasion at the same meeting place, one of the team members arrived about an hour late and because the home was packed with members and guests, she had to stand in the doorway and pray for the people around her. When the meeting ended about two hours later, she apologized to the leader for her tardiness, explaining that she had great difficulty getting to the meeting because of extreme back pain.

She said that when she finally found a place to park her car, it took her a long time to “shuffle” one foot in front of the other on her way to the entrance. When she stepped through the gate across the driveway to the host’s property, all the pain in her back suddenly disappeared and she was instantly able to walk normally the rest of the way to the door! Not only that, she stood on her feet for close to two hours ministering to people!

These examples, and many others like them, illustrate the sovereignty of God and the manifestation of his declaration that he will have mercy on whom he chooses:

*“...I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.”* [Ex. 33:19b]

## What Can Happen in Your Heart-Beat?

While it is very good to wait on the Lord and be patient for his answer to our petitions, it is also very good to expect him to act suddenly, swiftly, and decisively! Whether his response is fast or slow, as we might reckon, our faith for healings and miracles (instant healings) should always be based on his goodness and the beat of his loving heart! He wants our hearts to beat in synchrony with his, as his bride, so that when his love pours out of heaven in one of his heart-beats, it also pours out of us during one of ours to those in need! It’s another way that we, as the apples of his eye, can bless our Father in heaven!