

# How to Bring Heaven in Healthcare

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## Episode 5: Healing the sick – How to bring Heaven in Healthcare

### Full Transcript

[Length of episode: 35:56 minutes]

**Pete Carter**

In this session, I'm joined by my friend Sasha Caridia, an emergency medical care practitioner, and Dave Foggon, one of the senior leaders here at Eastgate. Both are part of the Heaven in Healthcare team, and we're going to explore some of the foundational beliefs with regards to healing the sick.

**Dave Foggon**

For anyone involved in Heaven in Healthcare, a big subject for us to talk about is obviously healing, and actually when you think about it, broadly speaking, what is happening with regards to healing throughout the body of Christ right now is really exciting, because I think there's a big shift happening. If you think about it and go back a couple of hundred years and what the Wesley's did in terms of our understanding of salvation and how it was there for us to freely receive enabled a massive revival to happen all over the world. And you know, a lot of the fruit that we get to see today is because of us moving into a more mature understanding of that. I kind of think that that's the same things happening with healing. Like we're perhaps at the early stages of moving into maturity and sense of understanding of what our authority is in healing and what that looks like.

**Pete Carter**

I think so. It seems to be becoming more commonplace if we can use that word. I would like to say more restored into normal Christianity, as Jesus told us it would be in Mark 16, when Jesus is addressing his disciples in the context of sending them out into the world, he says when you go out, you preach the good news and people will believe, and it says that these signs will accompany those who believe. So, not just the disciples the would already have with him, but those who follow add on, those who believe in the message, these signs accompany those people and in the list it talks about healing, you know, so that they will lay their hands on the sick and they'll get well. So I think we need to go back to that, and John 14, verse 12, Jesus says 'Anyone who has faith in me will do the work I've been doing and greater works'. So I think there is a restoration of an expectation within Christianity that actually we can expect to do the works of Jesus, including healing. I think previously – and this would be true within my Christian experience – there hasn't been that expectation; we have almost discounted those verses or maybe just not seen the full potential within them and found ways of actually living our Christianity without taking that with a degree of confidence, I would suggest.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah. You mentioned confidence there, and that is the big thing, isn't it? It's confidence, and often when we think about healing, we can get into unhelpful mindsets of thinking that it's something that I need to almost 'get' God to do! It's almost that we're trying to 'persuade' him to do it! And actually no, he's trying to persuade us because he paid the ultimate price for it 2000 years ago. And really he's looking for us to live in response to that rather than us trying to persuade him to do something that he has already indicated that he wants to do.

**Pete Carter**

Yes, I think you mentioned things like the Wesley's, and if you go back to the Reformation and Luther, there was a restoration of the confidence in the gospel message: that your sins are forgiven just by faith in Jesus alone. So you didn't have to work to get salvation and in actual fact that's contrary to the gospel. So the only way we can actually be born again is by faith in Jesus and is trusting in him. So it's similar with healing and so when we try and work for it, like if we try and work for salvation, we don't get it that way. If we try and work for healing, it doesn't happen that way. I think one of the things that across Christianity is probably more broadly than that, across the world, people like to find techniques that they think work. Because they like to try to learn the technique and they go 'Oh, this technique will work, so I can be confident in this technique'. We find Christian techniques and there are lots of evangelistic techniques, and I think there are lots of ideas about 'this is how you pray for the sick' so we do it through this process. And our confidence comes to rest in the process rather than in the person of Jesus. So to be confident in the person of Jesus, that's actually faith in Jesus because faith is a confident thing; faith is the assurance of things hoped for. So that's a very confident thing - if you're assured about something, you're confident about it, and I think the challenge is to keep growing in faith so that we see more and more healing as we become more and more confident in who Jesus is and who he is in us.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, and that faith and that confidence, when you are cultivating that as your reality, when you are in an interaction with somebody who needs healing that they pick up on that don't they? And ultimately that's all Holy Spirit needs - is for them to have an openness and an inkling that 'ooh, they really believe this..maybe it could happen'. Yeah, that's all he needs, is that opportunity. And often, if you find somebody who is believing the right things about healing and their authority and is living with an awareness of Holy Spirit with them, that's what we need really for healing to happen, isn't it?

**Pete Carter**

Yeah, I think most Christians would express confidence in God to heal the sick. Yeah, we're confident that he can do it. We just aren't confident that we can do it in his name. Yeah, and so we need to become confident in his delegated authority to us because it's authority that heals the sick. We don't see the sick getting healed by pleading with God to do something. Yeah, so in the famous passage, where Jesus looks out from the multitudes and

has compassion on them says they're like sheep without a shepherd. It says what are we going to do, you know, and it says the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. And I think we often pause at that point at the end of Chapter nine in Matthew without reading into Chapter ten (and the Bible was written without those Chapter Breaks). So the workers are few; let's pray for more workers for the harvest and then, in then the next verse as he calls his disciples to them, and it gives them authority to heal the sick. So Jesus takes himself, and he multiplies himself by delegating authority to his disciples, and that should be a continual process of multiplication of Christianity. And then if you're confident you've got authority, then you start to use it. Now how you use authority is an interesting question because you don't have to use it in what I call an authoritarian authoritarian, but you're just confident. comfortable. Because you got something. You use it. So if you drive your path to pass your driving test, then you've actually got authority to drive on the road. You can do this now. But yeah, there's there's still a learning of road craft, so to speak ,but actually, you have authority now to drive on the road and you don't have to plead with the authorities all the time. You don't have to check in with the police if it's right, no, you know you can just do it, but you learn how to drive in a more effective, mature way. It's similar with faith, isn't it?

**Dave Foggon**

I think one of the things that I find really interesting is how we still have these unhelpful mindsets of 'Oh, but that's only for those people isn't it?' 'That's only for those Christians...they've got an anointing in that area' when actually, that isn't really a New Testament reality - that certain people have anointings, and some don't. Actually - as that Mark 16 verse says - this is for everyone, isn't it? And what I love about you is that you live from this inner confidence [that] the healer's in you. You know, it's not your job to get people healed - you introduce them to the healer, don't you? And stuff happens, right?

**Sasha Caridia**

Yeah, it's funny, as you were talking, I was thinking about early days when I started to discover this truth. I had come from a 'not sure if God wants to or would'. And then 'would God give you sickness to make you behave better?' - all of this weird and wonderful stuff that comes out of coming up with reasons as to why something hasn't happened and creating theologies and thinking around it. So not healthy thinking. And when I started to discover the reality of the Authority of Christ in us and that sort of stuff, it was in a different sort of church environment than I'm involved in now. But it was in a homegroup, actually. We were talking, and this stuff had started happening; it then started happening around me, and in this particular setting, someone had a bad back and I said, Well, you know, pray for it to get better and their response was, 'Well, no, the Elders have prayed for me, so you know, I don't need any prayer'. The after just about 30 seconds thought, he then said, 'Well, actually, maybe you could'. So we did a very, very sort of simple prayer, you know, 'pain go'. So the next week, we have the same same set up and he comes in and we're praying and he says, 'Yes, God, I just want to thank you for healing my back and using Sasha to do it'. And it was this classic comment because it shows if you can use Sasha, you can use all of us.

**Pete Carter**

Even Sasha!

**Sasha Caridia**

But I was so excited because actually someone got this reality – actually no this is for all of us and breaking out of paradigms of who can and when you can and how you can, and how it has to be done, and restrictions – to this sort of ‘Hang on. No, Jesus said, heal the sick so he can say, pray for them, he’s a healer, so we get to bring that reality into our everyday. And so for me, it just happens to be, you know, the workplace and healthcare and what an amazing place to bring it into, and that reality of knowing that’s the authority that you carry, that actually there are two or three sides to this, but there’s the you’re going into work with the intention of just being who you are and then you can almost intentionally create the space around you and be aware that because I am here now, this area is now filled with the presence of God. There’s also the reality for me sometimes that if you get so busy that you have people coming through and out of your mouth is coming. ‘Well, you know, this could take this long to get better in this...’ And as you’re saying it, there is this real conflict that goes on because actually, I’m speaking something out of my mouth, that I actually don’t fully agree with! So I had to start looking at some of the language because actually what we speak can bring healing as well in terms of what we release through what we say; physical healing as well. So I started to have to change my language. It was a bit like “you could expect this to happen. However, you know, I believe in miracles” and sometimes people catch on to that. And then there’s the other aspect of not getting frustrated that you know you that you’re carrying all of this and you know the possibilities, and getting into a bit of a cycle of ‘but I’m not seeing it happen because I can’t do it in a particular way’. And actually, it gets so much more fun and less frustrating when you realise that so much more is going to have happened than you even realise and you may not ever realise, but just attaching faith to the fact that you were there. So therefore, healing is happening because he is there, as opposed to anything that I’m doing. So when we’re examining someone, you know – it has happened where someone had arm pain, and they didn’t have arm pain afterwards and I hadn’t prayed for them, but there’s the reality, and I know you have stories of that as well. You know, where someone had something when they came in, and they left without it.

One of my favourite ones was a guy that came in limping and it wasn’t – in a minor injury unit – it wasn’t an issue that we could necessarily deal with; it probably needs to go via a Primary Care GP. And so I did what I needed to do, we had a chat, and then he just sat there and said ‘Well, actually, I feel better now.’ So, ‘OK, well, I’m making sure that you still understand that this is potentially what you would need to do’. He says ‘that’s fine’ and he gets up and he walks out, and I just sort of lean back in my chair and I see him wandering down the corridor, and he’s not limping anymore! And that, for me, was when I started to ask that sort of question, or I started to realise or see that – ‘Oh, hang on’. You start asking those different questions like, ‘what if that’s because he’s come into an atmosphere/an environment where the reality is that God is present. So what if that’s actually what’s happened?

That's that's the sort of stuff that I think is fascinating.

**Dave Foggon**

I love the confidence of that as well in terms of, you know, that first story you shared about how it was a very quick prayer that you prayed and...it's amazing how whenever you do a conference about healing or anything like that, and you get to the activation part and you say 'OK, you are going to pray for people in the room and it's just a quick prayer' and they're never quick prayers!! You always have to stop them, like "stop praying, stop praying!" And it does come out of that thing about where is your confidence? Is my confidence in the healer or is my confidence in my prayer and whether my prayer heals people.

**Pete Carter**

Is it effective enough?

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, exactly, and you know, it's kind of - are we still in this mindset of trying to persuade God? Or am I praying a long prayer that is trying to convince me that this is going to happen? And it's kind of getting ourselves out of that, and realising that he's already paid the price and he actually said in Mark 11 that 'whatever you ask for, believe that you have received it' - so believing I have received as I declare that over someone and having the confidence that it's happening.

**Pete Carter**

Yeah, and I think we need confidence in the will of God to heal everyone, because I think that's a confusion within Christianity or a different point of view if we could call it that. So if you think actually God doesn't want to heal everyone, or actually he'll want them to stay in that sickness because it's a lesson for them, you then don't know really how to pray with any confidence. You end up with a 'if it's your will'...'heal them, please' and 'OK, we stand back and leave it to you' but we have no confidence in the outcome because it's pushed out there and we don't know whether God really wants to do this. So I think that one has to get settled. And I think, you know, the Bible was reasonably clear on this - that Jesus healed everybody who came to him, and he gave people authority over every disease; every sickness. Going back to the passage in Isaiah 53, that was referred to in Matthew - it uses the same passage effectively - of Jesus dying for all our sin to actually say he pay for our sickness as well. So there's a lot of scriptural evidence that Jesus has paid the price for all our sickness to be gone. And certainly that will be the reality in heaven - we all know that, but how much of that can we pull down? So I think that's the first place where people have to become confident that God wants to.

There was a number of times where you read in the New Testament, where people said, 'if you're willing' and Jesus said "I'm willing". Like we said with the lady with a haemorrhage, he didn't even know she was there. He was willing - he didn't have to turn on his willingness - she just accessed him, he didn't know she was there. She didn't even pray, she touched him. That's was

all she did. I'll touch him... and she got healed. And it's interesting because he says 'power went out from me'. So she touched him, power went out and I find it fascinating what he attributes her healing to - because he attributes the healing to what? Her faith. Yes, her confidence. So I can't say this, absolutely but I can't recall a place in the New Testament where Jesus says 'Oh, I healed you'. He doesn't need to claim it because he knows he's the healer, so he's not trying to build up his own credibility. So he attributes healing to faith, doesn't he, and then with the centurion, with the servant he says 'it will be done according to how you've believed'. So this link between faith and authority is really, really important to get. We need to be confident in Jesus and confident in his delegated authority to us and his willingness, and then we should expect healing to start to flow - as an overflow of this reality.

**Dave Foggon**

And what I think is really, really good about that is actually the whole idea of like once you have that confidence, abiding in faith as well because, you know, I think one of the things that we often can believe is that, 'OK, when I when I'm praying for someone, I need to have faith and then when I'm done, I just go along with my normal life' and actually, what we can almost do without realising it, is partner with unbelief after we prayed for someone. I think what I love about some of the stories that you've shared - and you and Mike - is the were stories of you praying for somebody and then you hearing some time later from them. You didn't hear the outcome straight away, it was sometime later that you had the outcome - they got a test result or they felt loads better and then the test result... whatever it may be. And in that in-between period, that's the really important period - after the praying - it's continuing to abide in faith, and almost celebrating with God that we know 'you and me know Jesus that you did release something into that life'....'I do my medical job with excellence, but quietly, internally with you, that's the place that I'm going to live and choosing to believe that that you've done something here'.

**Pete Carter**

Yeah, again one place in the New Testament it says pray for the sick, (which is when, in James, the people say, call for the Elders to pray if you're sick). But it says there 'the prayer of faith will heal you', and again, it's not a prayer of anxiety, it's not a prayer of desperation, but it's confident, you know? So we're not saying you can't use prayer as an aspect of your confidence, but actually, Jesus didn't tell people to pray for the sick. He told them to heal the sick, and sometimes we use prayer to do that, and I think that that's the way around that - what they're saying. Sometimes you don't - for example, this last Sunday in Eastgate, I was just praying for somebody generally to be, you know, 'blessed' with the Holy Spirit. I wasn't thinking about healing particularly...I was unaware that he had any health issues, I just put a hand on his shoulder, prayed for him, and he experienced the power of God. After the meeting, he came out and said, 'Well before meeting my my shoulder was very painful and I couldn't move up like this now, but now the pain is completely gone and my shoulder is free'. I thought, 'Wow, well, I didn't try to do that. He didn't ask me to do it...all we were doing was moving in the reality of the power of the Holy Spirit and he got set free'. I think it's beautiful.

Again, I think I like the progression in the Book of Acts of the Apostles' confidence – because you see they're having to grow in it. And I think that there is a reality that we need to grow in faith, which is our confidence. In Acts 3 Peter heals the guy at the gate, 'Beautiful', but by Acts 5, anybody who he walks past their shadow falls upon them. They're all getting healed and everybody's coming, and he's not even having to pay – well, whether he's paying attention to them, we don't know – he certainly not touching them, it's just his shadow that is healing everyone – that is an amazing story, isn't it?

So I think we should all be looking for that progression, and again, I think the devil will try and condemn us over what doesn't happen – 'Oh your faith, it's not big enough' – but that's never the voice of God. The voice of God says 'Come up here, let's grow your faith shall we?' and even when Jesus was rebuking the disciples of being 'an unbelieving generation', he then gave him the opportunity to grow in faith by actually doing the miracle himself. He never left people in condemnation, so I think the devil will try and tell us how bad and rotten we are at this, but that's not God.

**Sasha Caridia**

So I had a colleague of mine who had a hip problem, and she previously, I think, she had a skin problem and it got better. I actually prayed directly for that. And she sat in the nurse's station in the area between where people walking in and out, and it was relatively busy and she's got hip pain. I said, Well, we can do something about that. And so in terms of praying for her, it wasn't the best place to be laying on hands. So I said, 'Well, you know that I've told you that I have Jesus in me?' She said, 'Yes'. I said, 'Well, can you imagine that I'm a jug?' [laughs] 'Sure'. And we sat there and I said, I'm just going to I'm just going to pour God's love all over your hip. And she went, 'Oh, OK, then' (perfectly reasonable thing to do!) and she sat like this and and I just just leant like this and after a few moments she said "You've done it again!" What actually, is beautiful – apart from the fact that she's pain-free and she gets to be restored back to being able to work and she's not in pain – for me, it was that 'you've done it again' – because she's recognising a reality such that it wasn't too much of a stretch for her to get the whole 'I'm a jug and I'm just going pour the love of Jesus all over your hip'. You know, it seemed perfectly reasonable because she's had an experience; an encounter with the love of God prior to that and she's seen that this stuff happens.

I had a similar thing with a colleague that had some sinus issues and was in a lot of pain and wasn't looking very well. And we were sat, and I actually had just this sense of God's pleasure and presence, and again, this compassion thing rising up, and I felt like it was kind of being dealt with. So I just said, 'Well, that's OK, because that's leaving'. And she looked at me and she said '...it is'. Yes, and it did – and it meant that we could have a fantastic chat about about Jesus and stuff.

So, yeah, lots of those sorts of stories. One of my favourite ones – if you like – in terms of the demonstration of what happens when you have someone come

into an experience of the love of God for themselves when they don't have any real degree of faith and then also another colleague that kind of had a dream about this particular person. So basically what happened was: [I had a] lady colleague, atheist, and she had problems of endometriosis and was in a lot of pain, and was working and wanted to go and just find a bit of space to try and get herself sorted out and take some pain relief. So I just said, Well, look, hey you know, I can pray for you and she said, 'Well, I could take anything right now, but I don't, quite frankly, think that's going to work'. So she left and as she left, I just sat there and just – again, that whole thing of, 'OK, God, what are you saying about this just an awareness of your presence?' And I had this mental image of liquid gold pouring all over the affected structures, and I got quite excited about what I've just seen, so when she came back in some while later, I asked her 'So you're how how you doing, how's how's the pain?' And she said, 'Well, I've, you know, I've taken paracetamol and, you know, so I'm doing OK, actually, I'm not particularly in pain now but you know, you'd like to think it's your your prayer'. And my response really was, well, actually, 'I'm just happy you're not in pain anymore'. And that actually is something we can probably talk about.

Yeah, so one of my colleagues then who had been on the sort of threshold of wanting more in terms of Christianity and stuff, anyway, we chat a lot about stuff and she'd come alive to this, and she had a dream about this particular colleague that she tells me about: this particular colleague whose the atheist, and was overcome with the Holy Spirit. So we were celebrating that, but she'd also got problem with her thumb, so rather than praying for her thumb, we decided we just laugh over it. So we're releasing the reality of joy over her thumb, and her thumb gets better! And then sometime later – a few months later – the original colleague saw her and she said, from that moment, she'd not had any pain.

**Pete Carter** From which moment, from when?

**Sasha Caridia** From the moment that day. So, from that day on, she'd not had any pain. They'd been struggling to have a child; to get pregnant and I subsequently found out – a year or so later – that they successfully had a baby girl.

**Pete Carter** Beautiful!

**Sasha Caridia** Yeah. So yeah, that sort of stuff is fun.

**Dave Foggon** Yeah. I love it.

**Pete Carter** It's interesting that our confidence then leads to other people being confident that they can access the reality of God through us, which is, I think what

people can be confident in Jesus – that the crowds would come to him because they knew this guy's got something. And so I think it's really important that people become confident in us – and that can be in healing, it can be enjoying peace, all these things, but actually if we're not confident, other people won't be confident in us, and I think then we rob the world of the resources. I've often said, imagine I'm sitting in my GP's consulting room and a patient comes in to see me and I preface the consultation with just beforehand, saying 'Look, I just want to be really humble with you and let you know, I'm not a very good doctor'. [laughter] They would go 'Well why am I here? 'I'm not really confident today, not feeling very confident in my medical ability'! They'd go 'OK, well, I'm out of here'. But that lack of confidence is something that Christians think of as humility, and it's not...it's not humility, that's false humility. And it's actually a robbery is the devil's tactic, which doesn't just rob us, it robs the world of the access to heaven through us.

**Dave Foggon**

Totally. In fact that reminds me of a story. The other day, I was in the pharmacy with my daughter waiting to collect something, and I just thought, I'm just going to enjoy God for a moment while I'm here, and I just started feeling His love for someone around me, but I didn't know who it is. I'm thinking, I know there's someone here who – their left knee – the back of their left knee, there's a problem with it, but at that point, I have no idea who it is. I end up getting chatting to this elderly sort of guy in front of me and it turns out it's him! And after the pharmacy he is on his way to get some physio done on his knee, and he's got major problems with it...and I just explained to him that sometimes God shows me things like that, and I believe it's because God's healing him. I didn't lay hands on him. I just explained that it was happening, and he said, 'Well, that's great news because because I've actually got a brain tumour' and I said, 'Well, if you're happy to wait to the side, once I'm done here, I'd love to pray with you for that'. And he goes 'I'd love that'. And so after I was done – he was sat there with my little girl while she was reading a book on a chair – and then I went over to him and I just said, 'Is it alright, if I lay my hand on your shoulder?' He said yeah, and you could feel God's power going through. And he looked suddenly his eyes looked at me and you know he feels it going through his body and you can see the hope coming up. And – I didn't say anything to him, and he goes, 'I believe...I believe it's happening'. And I said 'you keep checking that knee out over the course of today' he start bending it around and he said 'It's completely healed'. And I knew that was God setting him up, you know, and it's about paying attention to what God is doing, because God was highlighting the knee to give him confidence in what was going God was going to do in the rest of his body. And so he left there just feeling full of hope and joy. It's so much fun! But I like to just live with a healthy expectation that I'm ignorant to most of things God is doing through me and around me. So there's always more than I'm aware of.

You know, the other day I was actually running to pick up one of my kids, and I was in danger of being a bit late. So I'm actually running through the town, and I see in the corner of my eye this 'Big Issue' seller guy who I know – or I've spoken to once before – and he waves to me. And as I'm running past him,

I just get this sense of God's healing his right elbow...and so I just shouted it to him, "I feel like God's healing your right elbow! Is there something going on with your right elbow?" And he goes "it's healed!!" And I was like, "Yay!" He said, "Yay!" - and he's already a Christian, but he was like, amazed and excited, and we just actually had this 'moment' as I was running! And it's amazing what God can do - He just needs a moment, and us staying in that place of awareness of what He's doing and who He is in us, and that's all He needs.

**Sasha Caridia**

There was something that God spoke to me very clearly about 7 years ago now - so when I was coming out of this [transition from] I'm not sure if God does want to yes, He does! In John 11:40 it says 'Did I not tell you if you believed you would see the glory of God?', and when you look at the word, 'see', and you look at the actual translation of that word - it can mean 'to become acquainted with His glory'. So basically 'become acquainted with through experience'. And it's interesting when you look at other passages - certainly around John 14 - where it's talking about Jesus saying, 'I've been with you and now I'm going to be in you and the world doesn't see me, but you will see me. That word 'see' there is a completely different word - literally like a theory. So it's based on your reasoning, whereas the word in that particular passage (John 11:40) is to become acquainted with through experience. I think one of the things that we can look at when we start moving into this, we can have a theory and we can see stuff happening. We can look at it from a distance, and we can reason and we can use our own understanding or... we can actually move into that thing of (Mark 16) 'those that believe'. Well, we believe, OK. So therefore Jesus was saying to Martha 'Did I not tell you if you believe you would see the glory of God?' He wasn't telling her off, he was actually commending her for her faith, because if you read through the whole lot, she was carrying a lot of faith. Didn't I tell you, if you believe you'd see the glory of God - and obviously Lazarus being raised was that aspect of seeing glory. But for me, it's a case of the growing in experience and becoming acquainted with through experience, His glory, His nature, and this is an aspect of it. And it is a journey, you know, of whether we lay hands on someone or whether you're actually having this moment with God and go, 'Oh, this is what you're doing now' - you're 'becoming acquainted with through experience'. So it's no longer a theory. Is it possible? This is an actual experience, an encounter that you're having with God. You're getting to know God more growing and growing in experience with Him, but other people around you are literally seeing the glory of God and encountering the glory of God. And so in terms of your authority it's important we just understand our authority, understand what we carry into the world around us - it talks about His glory covering the Earth'. Then we get to be part of that in the medical world. That's part of it. You know, the realms of health that we literally get to see His glory invade and cover the whole of realms of health. But it's that whole experiential thing of just growing and experiencing His love.

**Dave Foggon**

And I think that journey part of it is really important, isn't it? Because I guess

for people watching this, you know, hearing some of these stories can be both inspiring, but maybe even intimidating because you can feel like, 'Oh well, I'm not anything like at that point in my life' but the key thing to remember is – like you were saying earlier – how fun [it is] ...and actually just the process of doing your medical job with excellence, but involving Holy Spirit in that, is a huge step in itself. Partnering with Him in what you're doing and actually just letting Him help you do in your job is a big step in itself, isn't it?

**Pete Carter**

Yeah. And I think learning to listen to the voice of God, all these sorts of things. I think another aspect and another thing we talk about is learning how to be thermostats rather than thermometers. A thermometer can read the temperature in the room, and we think 'Oh it's a bit dark here, it's a bit cold spiritually...it's a bit this'. Well, I'm pretty certain the Bible teaches us to be the thermostat – we set the standard of how much of the heaven is going to be arriving in this place, not the lack of it. What I think is that every one of us – wherever we are in our journey of faith – there's more to be had. So I guess I would have a plea for people: please don't condemn yourself for lack of faith, but actually recognise there's more faith to grow into. And I love the guy in the Bible who says, 'I do believe, help me to overcome my unbelief'. I just think that's the honest reality that we're all at, you know. So, people could look at us and say, 'Wow'. Well, yeah, but we've all started and actually we've had to overcome our unbelief. Unbelief is really the enemy of faith and Jesus identifies it as something that would stop the activity of God like it did in Nazareth – he couldn't do miracles there because of their unbelief. So, I think coming to terms with any unbelief thinking systems we have in ourselves and being very honest about that – without becoming condemned about it. If we're not honest about it, then we say 'Well actually it really is faith' but it's not really, then we will accommodate it and think OK, then we won't cultivate the genuine faith. We'll explain away our unbelief as if it was faith. So I think that determination to be honest – and I love being honest – I think, you know, so does it always work when I want it to? No. What do I look at? I keep looking at God because I know he is than look at myself, and for me, the question is, OK, somehow I'm not quite got this connection strong enough so that when people touch me, they actually touch God. Some disconnect has happened. Yeah, because if this is fully connected, if somebody touches me, they touch God. Yeah. And it doesn't make me God but you know, that is a channel. So if somehow they touch me and nothing happens from God, then the problem is not that they haven't touched me, it's actually there's some disconnect in this reality, and I have to address that. And I think that helpful. And never to leave the person who's reached out to us feeling condemned or ashamed – I think that's really important as well.

**Dave Foggon**

Yeah, I know there's a quote by a famous ice hockey player, I think, which is like, you miss 100% of shots you don't take. It's just this idea of, you know, a lot more people will get healed by us just taking a step. And actually, like you said, there is no failure in the sense of this: if you give them excellent healthcare and actually if they leave you also feeling in some way loved or

encouraged, then you've not failed.

**Pete Carter**

...and more hopeful. Yeah I think that's success, and in middle of all that, we are now seeing many, many miracles released through lots and lots of people who work in the health world from Linda - she's a hairdresser - who works in people's residential homes and worships and sings and prays for patients, and she's seeing extraordinary breakthroughs even in the realms of dementia. So it's not dependent upon your human qualifications. You know, it really is dependent upon the presence of God in me and my confidence in who He is and what He's willing to do.