

The Christian Fellowship of Healing (Scotland) worked from the early 1950's to support and spread the healing ministry within churches and to encourage engagement with the medical profession. To further these aims a centre was run in Edinburgh where people could come for prayer, listening and healing. A loving and supportive prayer community formed, which came to an end in 2011. This document is part of a legacy of resources which we hope will support others in their engagement with the healing ministry. More archived material is available to the public at the National Library of Scotland.

Crisis

By Ian Cowie (Chaplain 1976-88)

A crisis is a situation which demands that you make radical changes in your life.

If you make, or accept, the appropriate changes,
then you discover God's plan for the next stage of your life.
If you keep holding on to the past and will not let go -
trying to keep things as they are to preserve your identity -
then you will find yourself fighting against the grain of life.

It is hard to "hear" what people are trying to tell you,
"There's none so deaf as those who will not hear".

Eventually this turns into a form of depression.

If you give up struggling but still will not change,
one way out might be alcohol, drugs, self-destructive behaviour,
or even serious illness.

"Be still, and know that I am God" says the Lord.

What makes us hold on to the familiar instead of changing?

Fear of the unknown future -
not believing God can be trusted.
Fear of letting go of our survival techniques.
Pride which will not accept swallowing
much of what we have said.
Resentment that we have not been able to have our own way.
Resentment that something good has been taken from us.
Childish sulks and anger that life is "not fair".

Surrender to the "now"

Trying to preserve our old identity, we lose it.
Surrendering our old identity, we find a new one.

Former CFH Resources can be found at:

www.st-cuthberts.net | www.mindandsoul.info
www.emmaushouse-edinburgh.co.uk

God is always in what IS, never in what might have been,
or in what we think should have been.

Though the mountains are cast into the sea
and my whole world is turned upside down,
yet my Father is with me,
Jesus my Lord redeems my mistakes and my hurts,
the Spirit of God makes a new person of me.

Lord, forgive what I have been,
accept what I am,
and direct what I shall become,
through Jesus Christ my Lord.

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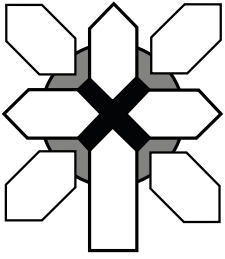
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Credo

used by the

Christian Fellowship of Healing (Scotland)

The Christian Fellowship of Healing:

is united in its commitment to the practice of prayer as the foundation of all our ministry.

Prayer is the means through which we believe the Holy Spirit can use us, here and now, to continue the practice of healing incarnated by Jesus.

is an ecumenical group of Christians who openly embraces a range of theological understanding and language to describe 'how' God heals.

We accept that health and healing can and does come through medicine, counselling, complementary therapies and other means. This does not negate the real contribution of prayer, rather it upholds the role of prayer to support individuals to listen to the Holy Spirit within them, guiding them, facilitating health and healing.

is committed to being alongside people who are suffering and experiencing pain, struggle and distress whatever their background.

We acknowledge that suffering faces us all and challenges our understanding and belief. Yet we can, with integrity, offer reassurance of God's loving presence accompanying every human being as seen in Christ who has shown us the capacity of God to be vulnerable even to the point of death. Living in and from this truth of the ever present loving God we respond as authentically as possible from our hearts, and we can offer an understanding of the range of meaning of healing which includes miracles.

is convinced of the importance of the varied aspects of healing displayed by Jesus in the miracle stories.

This includes an intense personal encounter with Jesus; affirmation of the individual as a person of value, physical healing, restoration of meaning and purpose, social inclusion; as well as challenge to those in power; confronting rigid thinking and lack of compassion. We believe all these components are aspects of the transforming love of God and reflect the wholeness Jesus calls us into. We see healing as deeply linked with the Christian tradition of vocation through which the living God calls each of us to discover and fulfil our potential.

is united in our understanding that healing in the New Testament includes wholeness.

This links the transforming love that effects miracles with the transforming love that brings the disciples through their fear and resistances into their ministry of apostleship. Our experience is that the practice of prayer in small groups, with a commitment to sharing and listening, enables those of us offering healing prayer to grow in ourselves and in our capacity to experience and share God's love. This includes the reality that some people have a gift of healing and a greater capacity than average to bring about healing.
