

1

00:00:00,875 --> 00:00:12,872

Oh God, let her go! That's the power of the Holy Spirit! Give the Lord a clap offering! Come on!
Come on!

2

00:00:12,872 --> 00:00:18,871

Faith healing is a part of modern life. Are the cures it claims to accomplish real?

3

00:00:18,871 --> 00:00:27,869

I think at a meeting of faith healing where a person gets up, actually walks, who did not walk prior to the faith healing,

4

00:00:27,869 --> 00:00:31,868

is a case of questionable pathology.

5

00:00:31,868 --> 00:00:37,867

Between religion and medicine, the laying on of hands remains a subject of intense controversy.

6

00:00:45,865 --> 00:00:51,864

Faith healing is as old as illness in mankind. It was the first treatment for sickness.

7

00:00:51,864 --> 00:00:56,863

Combining the mental and the spiritual, it is part of medical practice in Kenya.

8

00:00:56,863 --> 00:01:03,861

For the natives of Haiti, the ceremony of Voodoo is the key to spiritual and physical health.

9

00:01:03,861 --> 00:01:08,860

Here, modern Catholicism is mingled with the superstitions of an ancient history.

10

00:01:08,860 --> 00:01:14,859

Voodoo compels the people to cast off evil spirits and welcome good ones.

11

00:01:15,859 --> 00:01:20,858

The rituals of the Peruvian witch doctor are uniquely her own.

12

00:01:20,858 --> 00:01:26,856

It is a fact, however, that throughout the world, the practices may differ,

13

00:01:26,856 --> 00:01:33,855

but the religious principles behind faith healing are the same. It claims to be divinely inspired.

14

00:01:33,855 --> 00:01:39,853

Nowhere is divine healing so well documented as in the Christian faith.

15

00:01:40,853 --> 00:01:45,852

In the Gospel according to Saint John, Jesus performed his first healing in the Galilee.

16

00:01:45,852 --> 00:01:48,851

He cured the son of a nobleman.

17

00:01:48,851 --> 00:01:54,850

This began a tradition which evangelists have continued into modern times.

18

00:01:54,850 --> 00:02:03,848

In the 1920s, the founder of the Angelus Temple used radio to bring the ancient practice of faith healing to the masses.

19

00:02:03,848 --> 00:02:10,847

America was stirred by the popular broadcasts of evangelist Amy Semple McPherson.

20

00:02:34,841 --> 00:02:40,840

Sixty years later, the healing traditions of Amy Semple McPherson continue to be practiced.

21

00:02:40,840 --> 00:02:49,838

Religion claims they are miracles. How do we define miracle? Is it what medicine calls a cure?

22

00:02:49,838 --> 00:02:57,836

Whatever the term, staggering numbers of healings are claimed by such evangelists as Catherine Coleman.

23

00:02:57,836 --> 00:03:02,835

You better know the why of these miracles. You better know the why of it.

24

00:03:02,835 --> 00:03:07,834

It's not Catherine Coleman. It's not some personality.

25

00:03:07,834 --> 00:03:10,833

I'm giving you the picture, the world picture.

26

00:03:10,833 --> 00:03:16,832

But remember something.

27

00:03:16,832 --> 00:03:20,831

There is the spiritual side.

28

00:03:20,831 --> 00:03:26,830

Somebody received the healing for emphysema. Just breathe very deeply.

29

00:03:26,830 --> 00:03:31,829

You'll find that you're breathing perfectly. There's not a treat that emphysema there.

30

00:03:31,829 --> 00:03:36,828

Just breathe very deeply as the parable of the ghosts has gone through that body of ghosts.

31

00:03:36,828 --> 00:03:39,827

It happened while I was speaking.

32

00:03:39,827 --> 00:03:44,826

There's another cancer healing someplace and every bit of pain has left that body.

33

00:03:44,826 --> 00:03:48,825

Something, I don't know what it is, but something is happening in the wheelchair section.

34

00:03:48,825 --> 00:03:55,824

That's the only thing that I know. Something is happening back there. It's all over this place.

35

00:03:55,824 --> 00:04:07,821

There will be a miracle service or services when literally every person in that place will be healed by the power of God.

36

00:04:07,821 --> 00:04:15,819

And I believe that with every out of my heart.

37

00:04:15,819 --> 00:04:23,818

In the eight short decades of the 20th century, medicine has created drugs which control viruses and kill infections

38

00:04:23,818 --> 00:04:30,816

and has virtually eradicated such killer diseases as polio, smallpox, cholera and malaria.

39

00:04:30,816 --> 00:04:34,815

Faith healing also claims to have cured these diseases.

40

00:04:34,815 --> 00:04:40,814

Should it be added to the arsenal of modern medicine? How does faith healing work?

41

00:04:40,814 --> 00:04:48,812

When modern medicine pronounces a disease incurable, the ill and the handicapped turn in new directions.

42

00:04:48,812 --> 00:04:57,810

In the summer of 1980, hundreds of people gathered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to hear evangelist Morris Cirillo preach salvation and healing.

43

00:04:57,810 --> 00:05:06,808

They came seeking remedies for multiple sclerosis, chronic back pain, spine conditions, kidney problems, even cancer.

44

00:05:06,808 --> 00:05:14,806

The thousands who attended each meeting are testimony to their belief that faith can heal.

45

00:05:14,806 --> 00:05:22,805

Do you believe that the power of the Holy Spirit could come so strong that everybody could be healed?

46

00:05:22,805 --> 00:05:31,803

Come on, do you believe that? When you leave this building tonight, I promise you as God's servant that you will never be the same.

47

00:05:31,803 --> 00:05:44,800

I do, on many occasions, lay hands on the sick in obedience to the scriptural admonition.

48

00:05:44,800 --> 00:05:52,798

The Bible says they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

49

00:05:52,798 --> 00:06:04,795

We believe that the final word and the final authority over all sickness, all disease and all authority over pain is in the hands of Almighty God.

50

00:06:04,795 --> 00:06:10,794

Mr. Rebel, this is Lydia. Eight years she has had terrible swelling in her hands.

51

00:06:10,794 --> 00:06:16,793

So much so that she couldn't even begin to take these rings off of tonight. They're loose.

52

00:06:16,793 --> 00:06:24,791

Give the Lord a clap, come on, give him praise.

53

00:06:24,791 --> 00:06:33,789

We believe in people using medicine and using pills to alleviate their sufferings and their pains and their ills.

54

00:06:33,789 --> 00:06:41,787

But what do they do when the doctor says there's nothing more that I can do for you? Do they give up? We teach them don't give up.

55

00:06:41,787 --> 00:06:58,784

In the name of Jesus, everybody with a bone disease, everybody with a back infirmity, misplaced vertebrae, a spine disorder, swelling in your legs, everybody with that kind of a condition.

56

00:06:58,784 --> 00:07:03,783

In the name of Jesus, raise your right hand. Quickly, raise it right up.

57

00:07:03,783 --> 00:07:13,780

Alright, workers, with these people here, please bring them right down over here to the side. Please help them, help them out.

58

00:07:13,780 --> 00:07:18,779

Please help them out. Father, we give you praise. Please help them right out.

59

00:07:18,779 --> 00:07:27,777

Did you ever feel anything like this? Please. Did you ever feel it? It's like warm liquid fire flowing over this whole building.

60

00:07:27,777 --> 00:07:31,776

Come on, give him praise. Come on.

61

00:07:31,776 --> 00:07:36,775

Father, I thank you for this meal.

62

00:07:36,775 --> 00:07:38,775

Oh, come.

63

00:07:38,775 --> 00:07:49,772

Oh, God. Let her go. That's the power of the Holy Spirit. Come on, give the Lord a clap offering. Come on.

64

00:07:49,772 --> 00:07:51,772

Come on.

65

00:07:51,772 --> 00:07:53,772

Come on.

66

00:07:54,771 --> 00:07:57,771

Keep moving around.

67

00:08:01,770 --> 00:08:05,769

Go on and give him the glory. Go on.

68

00:08:05,769 --> 00:08:09,768

What's happened before?

69

00:08:11,768 --> 00:08:15,767

Come on. Come on. Give those praise.

70

00:08:15,767 --> 00:08:17,766

Come on.

71

00:08:17,766 --> 00:08:20,766

That's a big, tall branch.

72

00:08:20,766 --> 00:08:22,765

Way around. Come on.

73

00:08:22,765 --> 00:08:24,765

Way back.

74

00:08:24,765 --> 00:08:31,763

Dr. Council Miller, an orthopedic surgeon, questions the validity of these immediate cures.

75

00:08:31,763 --> 00:08:40,761

I think at a meeting of faith healing where a person gets up, actually walks, who supposedly had not walked prior to the faith healing,

76

00:08:40,761 --> 00:08:46,760

healer touching that person, is a case of questionable pathology.

77

00:08:46,760 --> 00:08:55,758

I'm not quite certain that that person had any anatomical or physiological deficit to begin with.

78

00:08:55,758 --> 00:09:00,757

Perhaps that person was, quote, siked into thinking he couldn't walk.

79

00:09:00,757 --> 00:09:09,755

And then on the suggestion of the faith healer, that person actually showed that he could indeed walk.

80

00:09:09,755 --> 00:09:16,753

I wouldn't call that a cure necessarily for any medical disease process that that patient had.

81

00:09:16,753 --> 00:09:25,752

And I think it may have been a suggested physical defect, more so than a physiological anatomical defect.

82

00:09:25,752 --> 00:09:27,751

Do it again.

83

00:09:27,751 --> 00:09:30,750

Do it again.

84

00:09:30,750 --> 00:09:32,750

Do it again.

85

00:09:32,750 --> 00:09:35,749

Help me. Help me.

86

00:09:35,749 --> 00:09:37,749

Help me.

87

00:09:37,749 --> 00:09:40,748

Help me.

88

00:09:40,748 --> 00:09:42,748

Hallelujah.

89

00:09:42,748 --> 00:09:52,746

Medical science and what people call healing by faith or faith healing,

90

00:09:52,746 --> 00:10:01,744

these which were worlds apart many years ago, are coming closer and closer and closer together.

91

00:10:01,744 --> 00:10:14,741

There is a great appreciation in the heart of all true doctors for what can happen in the life of an individual through the power of faith in God.

92

00:10:14,741 --> 00:10:17,740

Give the Lord a clap for him. Come on.

93

00:10:18,740 --> 00:10:24,739

No single disease raises as many fears as cancer.

94

00:10:24,739 --> 00:10:29,738

Its victims reach beyond conventional medicine toward any scrap of hope.

95

00:10:29,738 --> 00:10:34,736

They are vulnerable to such remedies as leitreals and faith healing.

96

00:10:34,736 --> 00:10:36,736

Can these help?

97

00:10:36,736 --> 00:10:41,735

Dr. Michael Vanskoi Mosier is a specialist in the treatment of cancer.

98

00:10:41,735 --> 00:10:50,733

Why patients leave establishment medicine such as we are and go to, let's say, non-conventional kinds of therapy, I think is very individual.

99

00:10:50,733 --> 00:10:57,731

Some patients go because of a long feeling of distrust of the medical establishment.

100

00:10:57,731 --> 00:11:01,731

Some go because they recognize that conventional therapies have nothing to offer.

101

00:11:01,731 --> 00:11:09,729

And rather than accept no chance or no hope, really, they go where there is some kind of hope at least.

102

00:11:09,729 --> 00:11:20,726

We all get to the point of realizing that specific therapy can no longer reverse the patient's medical condition when we realize that there is no realistic expectation for reversing the course of their illness.

103

00:11:20,726 --> 00:11:26,725

The will to get better and a positive attitude are very important parts of the therapy of cancer.

104

00:11:26,725 --> 00:11:38,722

I can provide certain things to a patient in terms of treatment that I believe is useful, but the patient has to provide something else which is a real strong, positive approach to things and a need and a will to get better.

105

00:11:38,722 --> 00:11:44,721

Science is always looking for miracles. It's just a matter of what you call a miracle.

106

00:11:44,721 --> 00:11:55,719

But as a physician, I don't go looking for miracles. I've come to see very little magic really in the treatment of cancer and I focus on what's realistically possible.

107

00:11:55,719 --> 00:11:58,718

It is the answer and he'll wait for you.

108

00:11:58,718 --> 00:12:04,717

For some, like Reverend Joseph Lee and his congregation, miracle cures are real.

109

00:12:04,717 --> 00:12:11,715

It's all right. It's all right. It's all right. It's all right.

110

00:12:11,715 --> 00:12:18,714

I'm so glad that I had the answer that you would speak to the point.

111

00:12:18,714 --> 00:12:22,713

Isn't it wonderful?

112

00:12:22,713 --> 00:12:26,712

Isn't it wonderful?

113

00:12:26,712 --> 00:12:30,711

Isn't it wonderful?

114

00:12:30,711 --> 00:12:35,710

Isn't it wonderful?

115

00:12:35,710 --> 00:12:41,709

In rousing moving ceremonies, Reverend Lee claims hundreds of cures.

116

00:12:41,709 --> 00:12:45,708

What is this impelling force that encourages the body to heal?

117

00:12:45,708 --> 00:12:55,706

Is it possible for science to discover its source? In search of, we'll explore this possibility next.

118

00:12:55,706 --> 00:13:03,704

Doctors can only guess to what extent the brain controls the body. They do know it is our greatest untapped resource.

119

00:13:03,704 --> 00:13:10,702

This is the major premise behind the newly emerging field of medicine known as holistic.

120

00:13:10,702 --> 00:13:15,701

Are all forms of unconventional healing merely a question of mind over matter?

121

00:13:15,701 --> 00:13:22,700

Or is there another force at work, an objective force that can be measured?

122

00:13:22,700 --> 00:13:29,698

Dr. Bernard Grad of the Allen Memorial Institute in Montreal attempts to isolate this objective healing factor.

123

00:13:29,698 --> 00:13:39,696

I believe that these were the first studies done on plants and animals that showed that the so-called psychic healing

124

00:13:39,696 --> 00:13:51,693

was in fact a real and objective process and not due to any so-called placebo effect or suggestion of any kind.

125

00:13:51,693 --> 00:13:59,692

I want to emphasize one point that all of these studies that we had done were done by conventional techniques.

126

00:13:59,692 --> 00:14:04,691

If I had studied a drug or a vitamin, I would have used similar techniques.

127

00:14:04,691 --> 00:14:14,688

So the only thing that was unconventional about it was the question I asked, that is, can laying on of the hands actually accelerate a healing process?

128

00:14:14,688 --> 00:14:21,687

Dr. Grad devised an experiment which requires uniformly wounding the backs of three sets of mice.

129

00:14:21,687 --> 00:14:27,685

The experimental mice will be held between the hands of a faith healer twice daily for two weeks.

130

00:14:27,685 --> 00:14:30,685

The other two are control groups.

131

00:14:30,685 --> 00:14:37,683

Except for the healing treatments, all maintenance procedures are identical for the three groups.

132

00:14:41,682 --> 00:14:49,681

Two controls are necessary in order to prove that heat alone is not the healing energy Dr. Grad is seeking.

133

00:14:50,680 --> 00:14:56,679

Oscar Estabani, a healer, agreed to participate in the experiments.

134

00:14:56,679 --> 00:14:59,679

Estabani is a political refugee from Hungary.

135

00:14:59,679 --> 00:15:05,677

It was there he discovered the healing energies which seemed to emanate from his hands.

136

00:15:10,676 --> 00:15:14,675

Can Estabani significantly accelerate the healing process?

137

00:15:15,675 --> 00:15:21,674

Pain's taking observation and record keeping are documented.

138

00:15:22,673 --> 00:15:30,672

Dr. Grad is able to accurately gauge the healing rates of the separate groups by measuring the size and shape of each wound.

139

00:15:30,672 --> 00:15:34,671

He takes these measurements regularly and plots them on charts.

140

00:15:34,671 --> 00:15:37,670

The results are startling.

141

00:15:37,670 --> 00:15:43,669

In two weeks, 75% of the mice in Estabani's group, those in the center, will be able to measure the healing rates.

142

00:15:44,669 --> 00:15:47,668

The mice are almost entirely healed.

143

00:15:47,668 --> 00:15:56,666

It must be understood that this healing takes place by stimulating the body's own processes of healing.

144

00:15:56,666 --> 00:16:02,665

It's not some magical thing which is taken from the outside and put in like a tape cassette.

145

00:16:02,665 --> 00:16:05,664

We're playing the music that comes from the body itself.

146

00:16:05,664 --> 00:16:13,662

I feel in this process of healing by the laying on of hands, a transfer, I believe, of an energy.

147

00:16:13,662 --> 00:16:16,662

I've called it an energy of healing.

148

00:16:16,662 --> 00:16:22,660

I believe that in a sense, it may be the energetic basis of consciousness.

149

00:16:22,660 --> 00:16:25,660

It seems to know what to do.

150

00:16:28,659 --> 00:16:32,658

I think the power of the mind alone in the treatment of diseases is a completely unknown quantity.

151

00:16:32,658 --> 00:16:35,658

I think that there is potential power there.

152

00:16:35,658 --> 00:16:38,657

I've become convinced of that and I think a lot of physicians have.

153

00:16:38,657 --> 00:16:42,656

But I am totally unconvinced that anyone's learned how to tap into that power.

154

00:16:42,656 --> 00:16:48,655

And therefore, since we can't tap into it reliably, it's hard to know what its ultimate strength is going to be.

155

00:16:48,655 --> 00:16:52,654

Is the power of the mind so great that it can cure cancer?

156

00:16:52,654 --> 00:16:57,653

In 1976, while our cameras were filming in search of life after death,

157

00:16:57,653 --> 00:17:02,652

we found a poignant story which may hold the key to tapping this potential.

158

00:17:02,652 --> 00:17:06,651

Seven-year-old Michael Friedman was stricken with cancer of the kidney.

159

00:17:06,651 --> 00:17:13,649

At that time, he began a highly unusual therapy with Sheldon Ruderman, his teacher and his leader.

160

00:17:13,649 --> 00:17:17,648

This is their story as we presented it four years ago.

161

00:17:17,648 --> 00:17:21,647

In fact, he was dealing with a seriously advanced lung cancer.

162

00:17:21,647 --> 00:17:26,646

The emotional tone of both the letter and the subsequent meetings we had

163

00:17:26,646 --> 00:17:33,645

spoke really powerfully to me about the powerful emotional reality they represented in the present.

164

00:17:33,645 --> 00:17:39,644

Sheldon Ruderman's encounter with death began in 1960.

165

00:17:39,644 --> 00:17:44,642

The experience had a profound effect on him and changed the direction of his life.

166

00:17:44,642 --> 00:17:48,642

He now counsels cancer patients like Michael Friedman

167

00:17:48,642 --> 00:17:53,640

and believes that the power of the mind can reinforce medical treatment.

168

00:17:53,640 --> 00:17:57,640

Thus far, the results have been positive.

169

00:17:57,640 --> 00:17:58,639

When's your birthday again?

170

00:17:58,639 --> 00:18:00,639

January 29.

171

00:18:00,639 --> 00:18:03,638

Okay, by January 29.

172

00:18:03,638 --> 00:18:08,637

If we keep doing this, if we keep doing it, the doctors will tell you to do.

173

00:18:08,637 --> 00:18:10,637

It's coming on.

174

00:18:10,637 --> 00:18:16,635

When I asked my surgeon what he thought, he gave me less than two years to live.

175

00:18:16,635 --> 00:18:24,634

Like a lot of other cancer patients, my original diagnosis seemed to me unbelievable.

176

00:18:24,634 --> 00:18:27,633

I mean, somehow it still seemed a little unbelievable.

177

00:18:28,633 --> 00:18:33,632

Six years after Sheldon Ruderman was told he had only two years to live,

178

00:18:33,632 --> 00:18:35,631

his cancer is in complete remission.

179

00:18:35,631 --> 00:18:38,631

What could he tell us about Michael Friedman?

180

00:18:38,631 --> 00:18:42,630

The first day I came over and saw Michael,

181

00:18:42,630 --> 00:18:46,629

I kind of bribed him a little bit with a bag of bagels.

182

00:18:46,629 --> 00:18:52,628

But Michael, right from the beginning, looking at him,

183

00:18:52,628 --> 00:18:55,627

struck me as somebody that was going to be able to do this,

184

00:18:55,627 --> 00:18:57,626

primarily because he was not a grown-up,

185

00:18:57,626 --> 00:19:04,625

and he didn't have the built-in skepticism that grown-ups have about thinking about pictures and stuff like that.

186

00:19:04,625 --> 00:19:09,624

So I asked Michael about what was the matter with him, and he told me about his monster.

187

00:19:09,624 --> 00:19:14,623

And we talked about the idea of somehow shrinking and killing that monster.

188

00:19:14,623 --> 00:19:20,621

On the very first day I saw Michael, something prompted me to ask him,

189

00:19:21,621 --> 00:19:25,620

how long will it take for you to get rid of this monster?

190

00:19:25,620 --> 00:19:30,619

And after warning me that this was a big monster, so I shouldn't be too optimistic,

191

00:19:30,619 --> 00:19:34,618

he thought about it for a while and he said, by the time I'm eight years old,

192

00:19:34,618 --> 00:19:37,618

his eighth birthday was six months away.

193

00:19:37,618 --> 00:19:40,617

The sight of Michael moved us deeply.

194

00:19:40,617 --> 00:19:45,616

He was so frail, so emaciated, none of us were convinced that he could survive.

195

00:19:46,616 --> 00:19:52,614

Four years later, Michael is a healthy, vibrant, eleven-year-old.

196

00:19:52,614 --> 00:19:55,614

His cancer is fully in remission.

197

00:19:59,613 --> 00:20:03,612

Michael describes the cancer he called a monster.

198

00:20:03,612 --> 00:20:09,611

Well, the monster when I had cancer had big giant feet and long fingers,

199

00:20:09,611 --> 00:20:11,610

and it had holes everywhere.

200

00:20:11,610 --> 00:20:14,610

Inside of each hole were two little holes at the top,

201

00:20:14,610 --> 00:20:17,609

and the little holes at the top were for breathing.

202

00:20:17,609 --> 00:20:22,608

And what I did was I took some gooey stuff and put it in a gun,

203

00:20:22,608 --> 00:20:26,607

and shot it at the holes, clogged it up, and it couldn't breathe and it shrank,

204

00:20:26,607 --> 00:20:28,607

until it became nothing.

205

00:20:29,606 --> 00:20:33,606

Michael Friedman has defeated his harrowing monster.

206

00:20:33,606 --> 00:20:36,605

He continues to create mind stories.

207

00:20:36,605 --> 00:20:38,604

They have kept him alive.

208

00:20:38,604 --> 00:20:41,604

I do my mind stories at night before I go to bed.

209

00:20:41,604 --> 00:20:45,603

First I count down from 20 to zero to relax myself,

210

00:20:45,603 --> 00:20:51,602

and I walk over to a tub-like thing and change into a sponge.

211

00:20:51,602 --> 00:20:56,600

And once I'm a sponge, I squeeze myself to get all the bad emotions out.

212

00:20:56,600 --> 00:20:59,600

And then I change back into a person,

213

00:20:59,600 --> 00:21:04,599

and then I walk back over to the elevator, count from zero to 20,

214

00:21:04,599 --> 00:21:06,598

and then I call my dad.

215

00:21:09,598 --> 00:21:12,597

Michael Friedman's story is a success story.

216

00:21:12,597 --> 00:21:14,597

There are many failures.

217

00:21:14,597 --> 00:21:18,596

It is, however, an indication of what faith-heaving might be about,

218

00:21:18,596 --> 00:21:22,595

and where modern medicine might be headed.

219

00:21:26,594 --> 00:21:33,592

Coming up next, In Search of continues with the probe into the powerful forces of biofeedback.

220

00:21:33,592 --> 00:21:36,592

Then on FBI the untold stories,

221

00:21:36,592 --> 00:21:42,590

the agency's behavioral science unit creates a profile of a brutal killer.

222

00:21:42,590 --> 00:21:48,589

And later tonight confront the massive power of one of the most extraordinary places on earth,

223

00:21:48,589 --> 00:21:53,588

Niagara, a history of the falls at Ninety-Stern-Ten Pacific.