

& Demon Possessed

Chat with the Children

- *Who will help?*
- As a child, who would be able to help with....
 - a skinned/grazed knee?
 - a bully?
 - work too hard at school?
 - worries about someone in the family being ill?
- In all cases, while there may be other help (teacher, doctor, etc), would want parent involved...
- For Christians, whatever we are facing, we want our heavenly Father to help

What do I pray?

- ...for my dad...?
 - if we are honest, there are times we don't expect God to heal

Ministering to the Demon Possessed

- Context is a challenge to Jesus' authority, his identity, the embedding of his work in people's lives
 - into this comes the evil spirit driven man...
- There is evil at work in the world
 - and God can change things!
 - some engagement with mental health issues

Ministering to the Sick

- God does heal
 - not always
 - and risk of being willing to pray for celebrity healing... (DAR?)

Priorities, Priorities

- Healing could divert from the proclamation - it is meant to **bring** glory, not **take** glory
 - so he moved on (v.38) - still willing and able to heal in the new place, notice (v.40)

You do not have...

- ...because you do not ask (James 4:2)

via James Renwick/Church Alive EK:

- *Testimony from last Sunday Evening Healing Service: "Since coming back from holiday â the area between my heel and my in step on my left foot had a severe pain when I walked and it had gradually got worse over the weeks since coming home. So after 6 weeks I went to my family Doctor. He had diagnosed me as a classic case of â Plantar Fasciitisâ ... He told me to just continue wearing good trainers and he gave me no real assurance of it being healed but that by wearing trainers this would alleviate the pain a little! I was to come back if the discomfort got too bad for me. Church Alive that very Sunday was having a Healing Service and although I had had a really busy day â decided I was not going to miss it. I wanted to be healed â I do not wear trainers too oftenso did not want to start now! I am glad I came along â the Presence of God was tangible and during the*

service I knew something had happened in my foot. I tested it by pressing on the part that hurt so much. Normally I would cry out in pain if I pressed my heel. I am now pain free and healed.

- The offer is always there that if you'd like someone to pray with you, about anything...
 - have a quiet word with me or with one of the elders, and we'd be more than happy to pray with you...
 - re-iterate that today...
- And encourage you to be ready to offer to pray for someone
 - "I don't know what you think about God and prayer and stuff, but would you like me to pray for you?"