

The Essentials
Laying on of Hands

Heb. 6:1-3

- An uncommon basic teaching.

The New Testament uses of laying on of hands**(1) Healing**

Mark 16:14-18

¹⁴ *Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.* ¹⁵ *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.* ¹⁶ *He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.* ¹⁷ *And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

- Notice who the signs follow – those who believe (not the eleven apostles)
- Notice the Great Commission context

(2) Infilling of the Holy Spirit

Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴ *Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵ who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.* ¹⁶ *For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.* ¹⁷ *Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Acts 19:1-2,6

¹ *And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."* ⁶ *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

- See also Acts 9:17

(3) Ordination or commissioning

1 Tim. 4:14

Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

Acts 6:5-6

⁵ *And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, ⁶ whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.*

- See also Acts 13:2,3 and 2 Tim. 1:6

Laying on of hands reveals the basic concept of impartation.

- Jumper cables!

Why would God use laying on of hands?

- Help people make contact
- God desires our participation in His work
 - Incarnation principle
 - How Jesus fed the 5000

The basic qualifications for laying on of hands

- Be full of the Spirit
- Have faith in the process
 - Acts 28:8 - *And it happened that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him.*
 - I believe we should keep getting prayer this way until we receive what we need.
 - I also believe the best environment for receiving ongoing prayer is our small group.
- Present your 'members' to God
 - Rom. 6:13 “...*present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.*”