



Jesus was a freedom fighter. He liberated people from the powers of darkness so they could become who they were created to be. So if Jesus is our rabbi, we need to be just as committed to the ministry of helping people claim “no longer slaves” status. This series explores what that looks like.

Week 4: No Longer Slaves... “to the Tyranny of Disease” (Rick Atchley – 10/20/24)

1. Rick mentioned that 40% of the gospel narratives focus on healing. Why do you think Jesus emphasized healing in his ministry? How does that inform our understanding of his mission? Follow up: **Read Luke 9:1-2.** How does this challenge or encourage your view of how we should respond to sickness today?
2. **WHAT HE DID: Jesus’ approach to disease was not just supportive; it was combative.** Rick highlighted Jesus’ combative approach toward sickness, even rebuking fevers (**see Luke 4:39 & Mark 9:25**). What do you think it means to see healing as an act of “spiritual warfare”? How might this perspective change the way you pray for those who are ill?
3. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Good can come from sickness, but sickness is never good.** How have you experienced or seen good come from suffering or illness in your life or the lives of others? Follow up: How does this idea impact the way we think about & respond to illness?
4. **WHAT THIS MEANS: The gospel is good news for the whole person.** How does this holistic view of salvation impact your understanding of healing and physical health (**see Romans 8:22-23**)? Follow up: How might this impact the way we minister to others?
5. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Our Savior is still a Healer.** Rick emphasized that Jesus’ healing miracles are recorded not just to tell us who he was but who he *is*. Do you believe that Jesus still heals today? Share examples or stories that have shaped your belief. Follow up: What might it look like to pray for healing with faith, even when the outcome is uncertain?
6. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Healings are a preview of the ultimate healing to come.** How does this eternal perspective on healing impact the way we endure suffering or sickness now?
7. **WHAT WE DO: We boldly ask for disease to be removed or redeemed in Jesus’ name.** In light of the message, how can we, as followers of Jesus, better care for the sick, both through practical acts of compassion and by praying in faith for their healing? Follow up: What steps can we take to be more proactive in responding to sickness around us?

