

**LIGHT THE WAY**  
SO OTHERS CAN SEE!

**OUR FAITH  
LIGHTS  
THE WAY!**

## SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

Throughout the Bible are scriptures that are examples of God's compassion and concerns for our health. In the book of Leviticus, priests played a vital role in establishing and documenting the health of individuals and the community. Throughout the gospel accounts, Jesus met sickness and affliction with unfailing compassion. He did not condemn, even when others assumed the ailments to be connected to sin and evil.

The Balm In Gilead recognizes HIV/AIDS as a paramount public health issue that severely impacts the social fabric of our community, churches, families, and individuals. We encourage faith-based ministries, organizations, and leaders to embrace the role of compassionate leader to understand the full spectrum of comprehensive care for those affected by HIV. Below are only a few of the scriptures addressing health that you may find helpful as you participate in the Our Faith Lights The Way! HIV Testing Campaign.

**Exodus 33:19** - And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

**Psalms 103:1-5** - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits-- who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagles.

**Proverbs 13:17** - A bad messenger brings trouble, but a faithful envoy, healing.

**Proverbs 16:24** - Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

**Isaiah 38:16** - O Lord, by these things people live, and in all these is the life of my spirit. Oh, restore me to health and make me live!

**Isaiah 40:11** - He will feed his flock like a shepherd: He will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

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NATIONAL FAITH-BASED HIV TESTING CAMPAIGN

**WE CAN STOP THE SPREAD OF  
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**THE Balm  
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**Isaiah 66:13-14** - As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies.

**Jeremiah 8:22** - Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

**Jeremiah 30:17** - For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, says the Lord, because they have called you an outcast: "It is Zion; no one cares for her!"

**Matt 8: 1-14** - When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean." He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. Then Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

**Mark 1:40-45** - A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

**Luke 4:17-19** - And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down.

**Luke 7:8-10** - For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, "Go," and he goes, and to another, "Come," and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this," and the slave does it." 9 When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

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**John 9: 1-7** - As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

**Acts 3:16** - And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

**Romans 8:11** - If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**Romans 12:1** - I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

**2 Corinthians 4:8-10** - We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

**Philippians 2:20-21** - I have no one who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. All of them are seeking their own interests not those of Jesus Christ.

**Colossians 3:12** - As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

**3 John 1:2** - Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul.

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