

## Introduction

Laying on of hands is more than just a symbolic gesture of love...It's a fundamental doctrine of Christianity (Hebrews 6). Jesus specifically mentioned it as a sign that would follow believers (Mark 16:17)

## 1: Biblical Foundation and Purpose

As one of the six foundational doctrines of Christianity, it has multiple purposes: • Physical healing • Receiving the Holy Spirit • Imparting prophetic words and spiritual gifts • Commissioning for ministry

Paul and Timothy (1 Timothy 4, 2 Timothy 1:6) • Gift was imparted through laying on of hands • Timothy was instructed to "stir up" this gift

## 2: Some Practical Guidelines for Public Ministry

## 3: Some Safety and Ethical Considerations

- Avoid one-on-one prayer with opposite sex in private
- Practice appropriate physical contact: • Touch head or shoulder only • No pushing or forceful actions • For sensitive cases, ask person to place their own hands on affected area
- Maintain professional conduct: • Practice good hygiene • Speak respectfully and gently • Never be harsh or shouting • Minister in groups of two or three when possible

## Conclusion and Practical Applications

- Trust in God's power working through you rather than your own ability
- Minister with humility, faith and love
- Practical steps for different situations: • Salvation • Healing • Prophecy

## Small Group Questions

1. Can you share about a time when someone prayed for you with the laying on of hands? What was that experience like for you?
2. The talk emphasises that it's God's power, not our own, that works through laying on of hands. How might this understanding change the way we approach praying for others?
3. What aspects of praying for others make you feel most nervous or uncertain, and what from this teaching helps address those concerns?