

Preparing a School of Healing with John Fergusson

Introduction

The main purpose of the School is to encourage the 'ordinary' Christian to begin, or to develop their existing ministry, in healing the sick.

We believe that healing is both a duty and a privilege. It is also within the scope of every believer, including children and brand-new Christians. Therefore all who want to come should be welcomed. The School is very practical, with plenty of 'hands on' experience. In every School many experience healing as we practice on each other!

John's teaching is clear, simple, and encouraging. We have seen literally thousands of people healed under the hands of total beginners – cripples walking, deaf hearing, blind seeing, backs straightened, growths disappear, and illnesses such as diabetes and celiac disease healed.

Churches

We love to work with several churches if possible, as we believe there is an increased level of expectation and blessing when churches work together. However, we will happily come at the invitation of a single church if this is not possible.

Responsibility

We come at the invitation of a local church. If we are invited to speak at a home group we do ask for a covering invitation from their local church leader.

We usually ask the inviting church to make all the arrangements. This includes planning, registration, venue arrangements, financing, catering, publicity, and liaison with local churches, etc. Where possible, John likes to meet with the host pastor and/or committee at the beginning of planning, to talk through the details and pray together.

We find that it usually takes a month or two to organise the School, depending on the scale of the event. We have no minimum or maximum number, and have run Schools from 4 to 4,000!

Programme

John has at least 8 hours of teaching material, as well as needing time for lots of practice! Therefore ideally we like about 8 1-hour sessions, but can compress that to 4 or 5. We have done a School in two sessions, but obviously the scope is more limited.

The timing of the sessions depends on the local culture. It can be held as a series of single sessions over several weeks; on two or three consecutive mornings; or over a weekend. In NZ, a Friday evening, and all day Saturday works well. Sometimes a Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon can be added. If a shorter School is required, a Friday evening and/or just a Saturday morning is also possible.

Ideally we like to send people out (two by two) to practice on sick people outside the School, and then return with testimonies! There is no encouragement like success in a situation demanding faith, and our most successful Schools have always included such ministry. However, we are totally flexible and will fit in with whatever will work best for the host church.

Prayer

Prayer is vital, and we do encourage host churches to pray earnestly for the event. The enemy hates healing, and we often find quite a battle goes on to get a School underway!

Venue

The School can take place in any reasonable venue. Some of the sessions last over an hour, so seats should be comfortable. Space to move around is helpful, as John is an itinerant speaker! With more than 50 people, a good sound system with two radio mics (at least one hand-held) make it easier to take testimonies around the room.

We have no preferences on decoration, but one good idea is to hang healing Scriptures as banners around the walls! We do believe that excellence is a good Biblical principle (!), and would ask that what we do, we aim to do well.

Bookstall

We have a number of books, CDs and DVDs on healing that we can offer for sale, and would need a table for this purpose. We also offer a School of Healing Manual free of charge to everyone attending.

Finance

We don't ask for any fee. The host church is usually responsible for the financial arrangements, including any registration fees, offerings, etc. But other arrangements can be made if needed. Some churches make an offering towards JF Ministries, and any such offering goes towards ministry expenses, and not for John's personal income.

Registration

We find registration helpful for both commitment and catering purposes. Whether a registration fee is charged is up to the host church, but a small charge does help to ensure people attend most of the School.

Publicity

Most churches print a flyer which includes a slip for registration. JFM can supply a template, or a photo and CV for locally designed publicity. Where available, local newspaper or radio can be effective. John is more than willing to be interviewed by local media if asked.

Music

We like to begin our Schools focussing on the Lord Jesus, so a few worship songs on the Friday evening and Saturday first session are often valuable. However we often do Schools without.

Catering

We leave catering decisions to the host church, depending on facilities, programme and budget.

Accommodation

John is willing to stay with a host or in a hotel or motel, whichever is more convenient. John's wife, Bron sometimes travels with him. Travel arrangements can be discussed with the host church.

John Fergusson
JF Ministries
23 Maxted Road, RD3 Drury 2579
Auckland, New Zealand
021-735181
+64-(0)-9-2949042
johnf@jfm.org.nz
www.jfm.org.nz