



St Margaret's Church

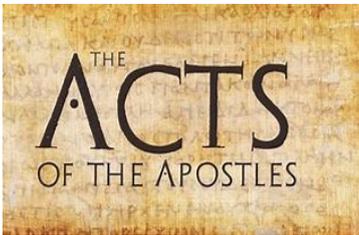
Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

29th June 2025

Acts 14. 8-18

HEALINGS IN ACTS



Jesus promised: *"Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father."* (John 14.12.) Jesus expects us to do the things He did. And what are they? In the main, this involved preaching/teaching, healing, exorcisms, miracles, and acts of love done

without prejudice. So it should come as no surprise to us that we read of all these things in Acts.

The very first healing is found in Acts 3. 1-11 when Peter heals a lame man in Jesus' name. This parallels the first recorded healing of Jesus in Mark 2 when He heals a paralysed man. The ministry of Peter and John included healing the sick and those possessed by evil spirits, with crowds gathering to witness the healings (Acts 5.12-16). Philip (one of the Greek Jews appointed as a Deacon) performs healings in Jesus' name. *"For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed."* (Acts 8. 7.) Peter sees Aeneas healed and Dorcas raised from the dead in Acts 9. 36-41. Ananias prays for Saul's sight to be restored in Acts 9.

As the focus shifts from Peter to Paul around Acts 13, we start to see miracles of healing being attributed to Paul. In our passage for today, Paul and Barnabas are in Lystra (modern day Turkey) and they see a crippled man who has faith to be healed. Unfortunately this healing resulted in the crowds seeing them as two Greek gods come to earth. Despite their best efforts to show their humanity and point to Jesus, many still misunderstood. This passage talks of the man having faith to be healed, but we know from the healings of Jesus and others recorded in Acts, the faith of the recipient is not a prerequisite for healings (for example, see the healing of Publius' father on Malta in Acts 28.7-8). Paul performs exorcisms (Acts 16.16-18) and sees Eutychus restored to life (Acts 20.9-10).

There are also stories recorded of healings by proxy. Peter's shadow was believed to have healing power, with people bringing the sick to be touched by it (Acts 5.15). Handkerchiefs touched by Paul's skin were taken to the sick, and they were healed (Acts 19.11-12).

What do we learn from all this? It was not just the apostles praying for and seeing people healed. Not everyone will understand what is happening. Faith of the recipient is not a prerequisite. Healing is done in the name of Jesus (all the glory to Him!).

And today, it is still true that we should be doing and expecting to see the things that Jesus did in our church. In fact, as He promised, we should be seeing GREATER things. So when you pray for healing or receive prayers for healing, expect God to act in love and for our best.



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Bible Verse for 2025: *Philippians 4.4*

Rejoice in the LORD always. I will say again : Rejoice!

This week- Sunday 29th June 2025 :

Healing Service at 10.30am. Matt will be speaking from Acts 14. 8-18 on the theme: **'Healing in Acts.'**

Focused prayer gathering at 7pm concentrating on the mission partners we support.

Next Week 6th July 2025:

Holy Communion at 10.30am. Alan Pugmire will be speaking from Acts 11. 19-30 on the theme: **'Moving Outwards.'** This is Alan's first sermon in our 150th anniversary year.

June 29th – July 5th, Please Pray for:

- People living in Hodgson Court & Burnage Lane (Mauldeth Road to Slade Lane).
- Helpful Tuesday afternoon reflection (a week early).
- Thoughtful planning and preparation for the Holiday Club.
- Burnage Library Fair on Saturday to be well supported.
- Resolution of staffing issues at the Burnage FoodBank.
- Rev Amy Cornell settling into her role across 3 Reddish parishes,
- Protection & fellowship for secret converts in Iran.
- Bishop Walter Toro & Andrew Peart working together about Diocese of Bolivia.

Looking Ahead:

12th July: 7pm. A concert of light summer music by Vivaldi ensemble in church. Refreshments and Concert will be free. Donations in aid of Falconer Home.

13th July: 10.30am. Sunday service to give thanks for the Falconer Home. Theme is: **'Called to Go.'**

This Time Tomorrow: you may have heard others being interviewed in church and asked about what they are doing this time tomorrow and how we can pray for you. Would you be interested in being interviewed? If so, see Helen Hardy or Matt.

Mission Action Plan 2026-9: At the end of this year, we will be starting to form our next plan for growth, so please chat to Matt or any member of the PCC if you have ideas and thoughts that could feed into this.

If you are visiting St Margaret's for the first time we hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today.

For more information please visit our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Come and join us for tea or coffee after the service.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library
(when open) and Asda Reddish

URGENTLY NEEDED: Please concentrate on Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Sweet Corn/Peas, Tinned Carrots/Potatoes, Tinned Corned beef/ham, Long life Fruit juice/ Long life Semi milk, Tea/ Coffee, Tinned Fruit/ Custard, Jam/Peanut butter, Shampoo.