

Laying on of Hands



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This doctrine is placed by the Holy Spirit as a foundation of faith, as milk for young believers. This is not a commonly practiced teaching in the church today because it is hard to understand. Since the Bible declares this as milk of the Word, we need to drink freely and practice this doctrine in our churches and families.

Laying on of hands is 'a' way of causing a person to be filled with the Holy Spirit

^{NIV} **Acts 9:17** Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. **Placing his hands on Saul**, he said, **“Brother Saul, the Lord-- Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here-- has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”**

^{NIV} **Acts 10:44** While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.^{NIV} **Acts 10:47,48** “Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.”⁴⁸ So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

^{NIV} **Ephesians 1:13,14** And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession-- to the praise of his glory.

Laying on of hands to recognize or initiate into special service

^{NIV} **Acts 6:6** They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and **laid their hands on them.**

^{NIV} **Acts 13:1** In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.² While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”³ So after they had fasted and prayed, **they placed their hands on them** and sent them off.

NIV 1 Timothy 5:22 Do not be hasty in **the laying on of hands**, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

Laying on of hands to bless children

NIV Matthew 19:13-15 Then little children were **brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them**. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. ¹⁴ Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” ¹⁵ When **he had placed his hands on them**, he went on from there.

NIV Mark 10:13-16 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶ **And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.**

Laying on of hands to gift for ministry

NIV 1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect your **gift**, which was **given** you through a prophetic message **when the body of elders laid their hands on you**

NIV 2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame **the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.**

Laying on of hands as a way to heal

NIV Mark 1:41 Filled with compassion, **Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man**. “I am willing,” he said. **“Be clean!”** ⁴² **Immediately the leprosy left him** and he was cured.

NIV Mark 6:5 He could not do any miracles there, except **lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.**

NIV Acts 9:12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and **place his hands on him to restore his sight.**

NIV Acts 9:17-18 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. **Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord-- Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here-- has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”** ¹⁸

Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,

^{NIV} **Acts 28:8** His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, **after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him.**