Basic Christian Doctrines Bible Study

"Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment."
Hebrews 6:1-2 NIV

Lesson Five – Laying on of Hands

1. What is the "laying on of hands"?

   Hands are placed on a person's head or hands while receiving prayer. When praying for healing, the hands may be placed on the part of the body that is ill (if appropriate). It is a good idea for men to pray for men and women to pray for women in these instances.

   a) Jesus placed his hands on people when He prayed for healing.

      "When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them." Luke 4:40 NIV

   b) The apostles placed their hands on people to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

      "When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money …" Acts 8:18 NIV

   c) Timothy received gifts through the laying on of hands.

      "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." 2 Timothy 1:6 NIV

   d) The apostles laid hands and prayed for those being set aside for ministry. These men were being commissioned to be deacons to take care of the food distribution.

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

2. What are the gifts we can receive?

   a) The gifts of the Spirit – 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

   b) Other gifts – Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:28

   c) The greatest gift is love! – 1 Corinthians 13

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