

Abstract

Theme. Prayer for liberation and to healing in the perspective of practical theology and helping professions. Current issues/questions.

The theme of the thesis deals with the issue of prayer for liberation and healing. The thesis is divided into five parts. The first chapter brings a deeper reflection of selected concepts of practical theology that are related to the content and form a basic introduction to understanding the context. In more detail, it also shows and interprets individual passages of Matthew, Mark and Luke's Gospels. The final synthesis of the chapter outlines suggestions for cooperation among other sciences – psychology, pedagogy, medicine. The aim of this approach is to point out the deep biblical connections and pastoral practice of the present.

The second chapter deals with the issue of service for liberation and healing, reflecting topics such as conversion, forgiveness, attitudes and values of an individual, work with trauma and negative emotions. It shows specific starting points and impulses in practice concerning pastoral assistants, clergymen and spiritual accompanists, or the theology students, who want to pursue this field.

The third chapter introduces the current issues of spiritual accompaniment – in postmodern thinking, the specifics of the care and development of spiritual life, including mysticism, magic and occultism, or the New Age movement. It also provides a comparison of psychotherapy and prayer for liberation.

The fourth and fifth chapters deal with the empirical investigation; it is case studies focused on the prayer for liberation and healing in the perspective of specific individuals who have experienced significant spiritual or mental difficulties. These are commented on and provide a more coherent insight into the issue. The fifth chapter reflects the outcomes of the questionnaire survey in the field of ecumenical dialogue of different churches and the knowledge of the respondents in this field.