

# The Healing of Souls

By Ian Menzies



The foundation stone of my congregation's church begins "*To the Glory of God and For the Healing of Souls*". One dictionary defines healing as "*the process of making or becoming sound or healthy again*". Healing is not the same as curing. With illnesses, medical intervention and treatment can sometimes cure, but healing is different. Sometimes just finding meaning in a situation can heal through acceptance, change or growth. Sadness and tragedy can't be cured, but can be

healed. The difference is one of those exquisite dichotomies that form the mystery of the grace of God. So what of the "*Healing of Souls*"? How is it that a soul can become unsound or unhealthy, in need of healing? Surely it is when life has become meaningless or sinful; when one has "*wandered from the pathway*" and lost touch with the vision. The exhortation of our foundation stone is to recognise that we need to remain in community, close to God; for it is there that souls can truly be healed.

## Reflection:

*Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*

*James 5: 16*