

Jesus let me Touch You and See if You are Real

Mark 5:25-34 (KJV)

²⁵And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, ²⁶And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, ²⁷When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. ²⁸For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. ²⁹And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. ³⁰And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes? ³¹And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? ³²And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. ³³But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. ³⁴And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Giving honor to God, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Giving honor to the children of God. Good morning to my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. It's important to note the woman with the issue of blood is mentioned in three of the gospels - Mark, Luke, and Matthew. In today's text, Mark 5:25-34, we will take a look at the longest passage about this particular woman. According to the law (Leviticus 15:25-27), excessive blood flow made a woman ceremonially unclean.

A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. She had suffered a great deal from many doctors, and over the years she had spent everything she had to pay them, but she had gotten no better. In fact, she had gotten worse. She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. For she thought to herself, "If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed." Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition.

Jesus realized at once that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my robe?" His disciples said to him, "Look at this crowd pressing around you. How can you ask, 'Who touched me?'" It's as if they were saying, "Master, we've got a big crowd out here today." Suggesting that a lot of people were there and anyone of them could have touched Him. Jesus continued to look around to see who had touched him. It was the woman. The woman that was frightened, trembling, and with the unique

realization of the miracle that just occurred, came and fell down on her knees in front of Jesus and told Him what she had done. Jesus spoke to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over."

My brothers and sisters, the Gospel of Luke (Chapter 8:43-48) shares an account of the story, however it adds something profound about the woman's experience. You see, when the woman realized that she could no longer stay hidden, she began to shake or tremble and fell down on her knees in front of Jesus. The entire crowd heard her explain why she had touched the Master. She also explained how she had been immediately healed. "Daughter," Jesus said to her, "Your faith has made you well. Go in peace." Beloved, the entire crowd got the opportunity to hear her explain to Jesus why she had touched him. Big Bethel, there are times when our acts of faith need to be shared with the crowd. It encourages them and it builds their faith. In many ways, we can see faith grow in stages. For example: it starts in the head (mind), moves to the heart, then to the gut.

1. **In the head.** Romans 10:9, teach us "So then **faith** cometh **by hearing**, and **hearing by** the word of God." The woman with the issue of blood had heard about Jesus. The more she heard about him, the more her faith grew. She was ceremonially unclean. She had no business being out in the street, community, or around anybody because of her issue of blood. But there is a witness in my spirit that the more she heard about Jesus, the Son of God, the more she believed in her miracle. Have you ever had an idea in your head that required you to act on faith?
2. **In the Heart.** The Gospel of Luke 6:45 teach us about the production that takes place in a person's heart. Can you see how faith builds? The scripture teaches in this verse that⁴⁵ "The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; **for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.**" By filling her heart with good things; it produces good things. Her belief in Jesus as Lord, Healer, Deliverer was growing because her faith in who Christ was grew exponentially. Her faith had grown from her head to her heart. It was personal to her. Have you ever felt the burning desire to trust God for the miraculous in your life?

3. ***In her Gut (Stomach).*** *I'm Going to Do It. Now, when something is in your gut, you have made the decision to go forward. You are going to do it. I've come too far now; I'm going forward. Has anybody been there? She had spent her money, but the doctors couldn't heal her. Her condition had gone from chronic to terminal. She was sick and tired of being sick and tired. The thought of healing had gone from her head. (She believed it). It was in her Heart. (It was personal) Lord, I need thee every hour, every minute, every second of the day. If you don't do it Jesus... If you don't heal me Jesus... I believe that you can. I believe that you are able. I believe that you will, Lord. I don't believe you brought me this far to leave me. I know I'm lost, but you found me. I know that I'm not clean, but you can clean me up. I know that I'm broken, but I know that you can mend me back together again. I believe, I believe, GOOD GOD ALMIGHTY, I Believe. I'm going forward. I'm not turning back. I can't reach your shoulder. I can't reach your arm. But if I can touch the hem of your garment, I know that I can be made whole. Yeeeeessssss, I know that I know, that I know... If I can touch the hem of your garment Lord, even in my mess, that my sin will be forgiven. Jesus, let me touch you and see if you are real....*

According to the law (Leviticus 15:25-27), excessive blood flow made a woman ceremonially unclean. Anything she touched was unclean. In fact, if others touched anything she had touched, they would be considered unclean as well. She was lonely, and no one wanted her around. She couldn't go out into the marketplace. For 12 years she couldn't even be hugged by a loved one or a friend. She understood the definition of quarantine. Can you imagine the work associated with making sure that you have clean linen and clothing for 12 years? She was sick. She was tired. But something happened. She was sick and tired of being sick and tired. **In my head** - I had a thought that if I can see Jesus. O' Yes if I can see him. If it's too many people, I've got to press my way through and just touch him. Now, **it's in my heart**. It's a personal thing. It's in my heart to serve the Lord. I believe if I can touch his garment. I might not be able to touch His shoulder, but if I can touch the hem of his garment. I know that I'll be made whole. **It's in my gut**, now. I'm goin' do it. O' Yeah, I'm goin' touch his robe today. My heart is fixed, my mind is surely made up and I'm goin' do it.

Some say she was also desperate, which keeps us from being complacent. She was desperate for healing. She had faith and determination. The word of God teaches us, "For without faith, it is impossible to please God." *Know who He is and come boldly with any request you have.* Jesus isn't afraid of diseases of sin. Jesus didn't have to acknowledge the woman, because her faith to touch the hem of his garment was enough to heal her. Jesus' acknowledgement of the woman may have been a way to allow the genuine faith emanating from her heart to encourage somebody else to have faith. Somebody 'ought to shout right now. Have you ever been trusting God to pay the light bill? Then somebody told you how the Lord made a way and paid their light bill. Have you ever been trusting God for a job? Then somebody shared how God made a way for them to get a job. Have you ever been trusting God for a house? Then somebody testified of how God made a way for them to get a new house. I'm coming to your street... Have you ever been trusting God for the marriage? Then somebody told you about how they were ready to walk out the door; but God!!! I wish I had a witness. Have you ever had pain in your body? Then somebody told you about the chief doctor in the sick room. His name is Jesus. He's more for you than the whole world against you. You're more than a conquer. Your faith has begun to build. You got it in your head. You got it in your heart. You got it in your gut. You're ready for a breakthrough?

You heard somebody else's testimony. A testimony of how the Lord Jesus showed up and Blessed in a Special way. Didn't it inspire you? Didn't it elevate your faith? Didn't it allow you to go to the next level of expectancy to say "Anyway you Bless Me Lord, I'll be Satisfied." Jesus wanted to acknowledge to the woman and the crowd that she didn't have to suffer anymore. She was free from bondage.

In closing, ask the lord in faith. Ask for healing in mind, body, spirit. Repent of your sins and thank the lord for making a way for you. You will be free from the bondage that tried to hold you down. ***Jesus, let me touch you; I know that you are real.*** Through God's love for you, in Jesus Christ, my brothers and sisters, you have been redeemed. Hallelujah, to the lamb of God.