

LONG AGO,,, I DISCOVERED A **SIMPLE TRUTH**,,, THAT,,,  
IN EVERY SINGLE CROWD,,, THERE'S SOMEONE,,,  
WHO'S IN PAIN,,, OR DISPAIRE,,, OR HURTING  
PHYSICALLY,,, EMOTIONALLY,,, MENTALLY,,, OR EVEN  
SPIRITUALLY,,, AND **WHO ARE IN NEED HELP**.

EVERY ONE OF US,,, HERE TODAY,,, HAVE BEEN  
SHOCKED BY THINGS LIKE;

\* A MARRIAGE,,, THAT WE THOUGHT WAS SO SOLID  
THAT IT WOULD NEVER END,,, BUT IT DID!

\* THAT SOMEONE WE KNOW,,, DID SOMETHING  
TERRIBLE,,, AND WE SAID;

***"I WOULD NEVER HAVE THOUGHT,,, THAT THEY  
WOULD EVER HAVE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT!"***

NEARLY EVERYONE,,, HAS EXPERIENCED THE PAIN,,,  
OF THE LOSS OF A FAMILY MEMBER,,, OR A CLOSE  
FRIEND,,, OR,,, THEY'VE REACHED A TIME,,, WHEN  
THEY CAN NO LONGER,,, HIDE THE BATTLE THAT  
THEY FACE,,, WITH ALCOHOL,,, OR,,, DRUG  
ADDICTION,,, OR ANY VICE LIKE THAT,,, FROM THE  
PEOPLE AROUND THEM.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS,,, IN THIS SANCTUARY  
TODAY,,, I ASSURE YOU,,, THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE  
WHO ARE AT **THE END OF THEIR WITTS,,, AND THEIR  
STRENGTH**,,, BECAUSE THEY'VE SPENT ALL THAT  
THEY HAVE,,, EMOTIONALLY,,, PHYSICALLY AND  
PERHAPS EVEN SPIRITUALLY,,, TO TRY TO FIX THEIR  
PROBLEM,,, ON THEIR OWN,,, WHILE SEARCHING FOR  
THAT **ONE MIRACLE**.

\* SOME THINK THEY'RE SDEARCHING FOR LOVE,,,

\* SOME THINK THEY ARE SEARCHING FOR MONEY,,,

\* SOME THINK THEY ARE SEARCHING FOR SOME NEW  
OPPORTUNITY,,, AND,,,

\* SOME,,, ARE SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS TO LIFE,,,  
BUT,,, WHAT THEY'RE REALLY SEARCHING FOR,,, IS

**A MIRACLE!**

**THIS WEEK,, WE HEAR THAT JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES HAD WENT ACROSS THE SEA OF GALILEE TO THE OTHER SIDE AND UPON THEIR ARRIVAL,, THEY WRE MET BY A LARGE CROWD,, WHO CLOSED IN ON,, AND PRESSED AGAINST THEM.**

**INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH,, THIS WEEK,, WE HAVE A STORY,, WITHIN A STORY,, AND BOTH OF THEM,, ARE STORIES ABOUT “**HEALING MIRACLES**”.**

***FIRST*,, WE HEAR ABOUT THE HEALING OF JAIRUS’S DAUGHTER,, AT THE REQUEST OF A SYNAGOGUE OFFICIAL,, WHICH RESULTED IN HER ACTUALLY BEING RAISED FROM THE DEAD,, AS WAS WITNESSED BY A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE.**

***THEN*,, WE HEAR ABOUT THE HEALING MIRACLE,, OF THE WOMAN,, WHO SUFFERED WITH HEMORRHAGES FOR (12) YEARS.**

**NOW,, WE COULD SPEND HOURS TALKING ABOUT THESE TWO STORIES. BUT LETS FOCUS ON THE: **HEALING MIRACLE OF THE HEMORRHAGING WOMAN.****

**OUR STORY,, OPENS WITH JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE.**

**ST. MARK TELLS US THAT; AS THEY GOT OUT OF THE BOAT,, A LARGE CROWD GATHERED AROUND THEM. NO SOONER HAD THEY STEPPEN ON THE SHORE,, JESUS WAS APPROACHED BY JAIRUS,, WHO WAS A LEADER OF THE LOCAL SYNAGOGUE.**

**AS JAIRUS APPROACHED JESUS,, HE FELL AT JESUS’ FEET AND HE PLEADED ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER,, WHO WAS SERIOUSLY ILL,, JAIRUS SAID TO JESUS:**

***“PLEASE COME AND PUT YOUR HANDS ON HER,, SO THAT SHE WILL BE HEALED AND LIVE”.***

**JAIRUS CAME TO JESUS IN DESPERATION! HE DIDN’T CARE ABOUT WHO SAW HIM,, OR WHAT THEY THOUGHT ABOUT HIM. HIS DAUGHTER WAS DYING,, AND HE WAS WILLING TO RISK EVERYTHING,, TO SAVE HER LIFE.**

EVEN IF IT MEANT “ASSOCIATING WITH THIS CONTROVERSIAL MAN”,,, THAT  
THE JEWISH LEADERS WANTED ELIMINATED.

JESUS AGREED TO GO WITH JAIRUS,,, AND AS THEY BEGAN TO MAKE THEIR WAY TO JAIRUS’S HOUSE,,, THE CROWD PRESSED UPON THEM AND THEY FOLLOWED JESUS AND JAIRUS.

NOW AMONG THE CROWD,,, THERE WAS A WOMAN WHO HAS BEEN SUFFERING WITH BLEEDING,,, FOR 12 YEARS. SHE HAD BEEN TO MANY,,, PHYSICIANS AND SHE HAD SPENT,,, EVERYTHING SHE HAD,,, FOR A CURE,,, BUT NOTHING WORKED AND ACTUALLY,,, SHE WAS GETTING WORSE!

**SHE’D HEARD ABOUT JESUS,,, AND HOW HE HAD;  
CAST OUT DEMONS,,, HEALED THE CRIPPLED,,,  
OPENED THE EYES OF THE BLIND AND CLEANSED  
THE LEPER.**

SHE THOUGHT;

**MAYBE,,, JUST MAYBE,,, JESUS CAN HEAL ME!  
WHAT HAVE I GOT TO LOSE?**

ST. MARK TELLS US,,, THAT THE WOMAN MADE HER WAY THROUGH THE CROWD AND SHE CAME UP BEHIND JESUS,,, THINKING:

**“IF I CAN ONLY REACH OUT,,, AND JUST TOUCH THE  
HEM OF JESUS’ GARMENT,,, I WILL BE HEALED”.**

FINALLY,,, WITHIN AN ARMS REACH OF JESUS,,, SHE REACHED OUT,,, TOUCHED THE HEM OF HIS ROBE,,, AND FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME IN 12 YEARS,,, THE CONDITION THAT HAD TAKEN OVER HER LIFE,,,

**WAS MIRACULOUSLY GONE! SHE HAD BEEN HEALED!**

NOW,,, JESUS,,, AWARE THAT SOME POWER HAD GONE OUT OF HIM,,, TURNED AND ASKED:

**“WHO HAS TOUCHED MY CLOTHES”**

THE WOMAN THINKS:

**AM I IN TROUBLE? WILL THIS CROWD CHASTISE ME?  
WILL JESUS REBUKE ME? WILL I BE DRAGGED INTO  
COURT?**

**BUT,, NONE OF THESE THINGS HAPPENED!**

**TREMBLING,, THE WOMAN FALLS AT JESUS' FEET AND SHE CONFESSES,, *HAVING NO IDEA OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN NEXT*,, THAT SHE'S THE ONE,, WHO HAD TOUCHED JESUS' ROBE.**

**YOU SEE BROTHERS AND SISTERS,, IN THE JEWISH TRADITION,, TO APPROACH SUCH AN IMPORTANT RABBI,, AND TO DELIBERATELY TOUCH HIM,, COULD HAVE RESULTED IN CENSURE AND HOSTILITY.**

**SHE COULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN FRONT OF THE LEADERS OF THE SYNAGOGUE,, *ESPECIALLY SINCE SHE WAS CONSIDERED TO BE "AN UNCLEAN WOMAN" WHO DARED TO APPROACH AND TOUCH A JEWISH MAN.***

**INSTEAD OF ANY OF THESE THINGS HAPPENING,, JESUS SAYS TO HER:**

***"DAUGHTER,, YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU. GO IN PEACE AND BE CURED OF YOUR AFFLICTION."***

**THEN SCRIPTURE RETURNS TO THE STORY OF JAIRUS AND TO THE HEALING OF HIS DAUGHTER. AS JESUS WAS SPEAKING TO THE CROWD,, THE LEADERS OF THE SYNAGOGUE ARRIVED AND SAID TO JAIRUS:**

***"YOUR DAUGHTER HAS DIED,, WHY TROUBLE THE TEACHER ANY LONGER?"***

**THIS STORY GOES ON,, DESCRIBING THE HEALING OF JAIRUS' DAUGHTER,, BUT LET'S SAVE THAT STORY FOR ANOTHER HOMILY LATER ON. FOR NOW,, LET'S JUST SAY,, THAT JESUS DID HEAL JAIRUS' DAUGHTER AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER. HOW'S THAT?**

**BUT,, AS WE LOOK BACK OVER THIS STORY,, I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE A COUPLE OF VERY IMPORTANT POINTS,, AT ARE SIGNIFICANT.**

**IT'S SIGNIFICANT,, THAT JESUS OPTED TO STOP HIS URGENT MISSION! BECAUSE,, THERE WAS A LITTLE GIRL,, WHO WAS DYING AND AN IMPORTANT MAN,, WHO WAS URGING JESUS,, *TO COME QUICKLY!***

THE DISCIPLES CHASTISED JESUS,,, WHEN HE STOPPED TO FIND OUT,,, WHO HAD TOUCHED HIM.

*BUT JESUS KNEW,,, THAT SOMEBODY NEEDED HIM,,, AND THEIR APPEAL FOR HELP,,, WAS - AT THAT TIME,,, MORE IMPORTANT,,, THAN EVERYTHING ELSE,,, SO,,, HE STOPPED WHAT HE WAS DOING,,, TO HELP SOMEONE IN NEED.*

THE NEXT THING OF SIGNIFICANCE,,, WAS THAT JESUS SIMPLY DIDN'T CARE,,, THAT THE SOCIAL STATUS OF JAIRUS,,, WAS HIGHER THAN THE STATUS OF THIS WOMAN,,, WHO WAS IN NEED OF HELP!

**IN THE EYES OF JESUS,,, BOTH WERE EQUAL!**

*THIS WOMAN'S NEED,,, WAS JUST AS IMPORTANT,,, AS THAT OF JAIRUS,,, AND JESUS INTENDED TO FULFILL THAT NEED,,, EVEN IF IT MEANT HAVING JAIRUS AND THE DISCIPLES,,, CHASTISE HIM.*

NOW,,, EVEN THOUGH THIS WEEKS STORY SHOWS A LITTLE LACK OF FAITH BY THE DISCIPLES,,, IT ALSO DEMONSTRATES,,, THE ABUNDANT FAITH OF THE WOMAN,,, WHICH IS,,, THE HEART OF TODAY'S STORY.

THE WOMAN BELIEVED,,, THAT IF SHE COULD ONLY TOUCH THE ROBE OF JESUS,,, SHE'D BE HEALED,,, AND IT WAS HER FAITH,,, THAT WAS THE REAL SOURCE OF HER HEALING.

SO,,, HOW ABOUT YOU AND ME? WOULDN'T IT BE WONDERFUL,,, IF ONLY WE COULD TOUCH THE ROBE OF JESUS AND BE HEALED? WELL,,, WE CAN!

THIS WOMAN'S FAITH WAS NOT LIMITED TO JUST HER BELIEF,,, THAT JESUS WOULD HEAL HER OF HER ILLNESS,,, IT WENT WAY BEYOND THAT!

*HER FAITH CAN BECOME EVIDENT,,, IN HER WILLINGNESS TO COME FORWARD,,, OUT OF THAT CROWD.*

ESPECIALLY BECAUSE SHE WAS CONSIDERED AS "UNCLEAN" DUE TO THE NATURE OF HER ILLNESS.

AFTER YEARS OF ILLNESS AND BROKENNESS OF HER BODY AND HEART,,, SHE STILL PUSHED THROUGH THAT CROWD AND TOLD JESUS ABOUT ALL OF IT,,, AND THAT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN EASY TO DO.

WHAT A WONDERFUL STORY THIS IS AND IT PROMPTS US TO ASK:

- \* **DO WE HAVE THE SAME FAITH AS THAT WOMAN?**
- \* **DO WE HAVE FAITH TO BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?**
- \* **DO WE HAVE FAITH TO BELIEVE THAT JESUS WILL ANSWER OUR PRAYERS? AND,,,**
- \* **ARE WE WILLING TO OPEN OUR LIVESTO AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE LORD AND ALLOW HIS HEALING POWER TO FLOW THROUGH US,,, NO MATTER WHERE WE JOURNEY IN LIFE?**

FOR MANY CHRISTIANS TODAY,,, **FAITH IS** CONSIDERED NOTHING MORE THAN A:

**“CONTINGENCY PLAN”**

**WHERE THEY RELY ON THEMSELVES,,, AND WHEN THAT DOESN'T WORK,,, THEN,,, AND ONLY AS A LAST RESORT,,, THEY TURN TO FAITH! SO,,, YOU NEED TO ASK YOURSELVES,,, AM I,,, ONE OF THOSE,,, WHO MAKE FAITH A CONTINGENCY PLAN? BROTHERS AND SISTERS,,, ALL TOO OFTEN,,, WHEN YOU RELY ON YOURSELF,,, INSTEAD OF GOD,,, YOU'RE LIABLE TO MAKE BAD CHOICES!**

**THE LORD WILL MEET YOUR NEEDS. HE WILL HEAL YOUR BROKEN HEARTS AND HE WILL MEND YOUR BROKEN SPIRITS;**

**THE KEY IS: PLACE YOUR TRUST AND FAITH IN HIM!**

**PUT YOUR FAITH WHERE IT OUGHT TO BE PLACED!**

**PUT IT FIRMLY IN **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST** AND THEN YOU TOO,,, LIKE THE WOMAN AND JAIRUS WILL HEAR THESE WORDS OF JESUS:**

**GO IN PEACE,,, YOUR FAITH HAS HEALED YOU!**  
***THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT***

**+++ AMEN+++**

( 1,513) WDS,,, 6 PGS