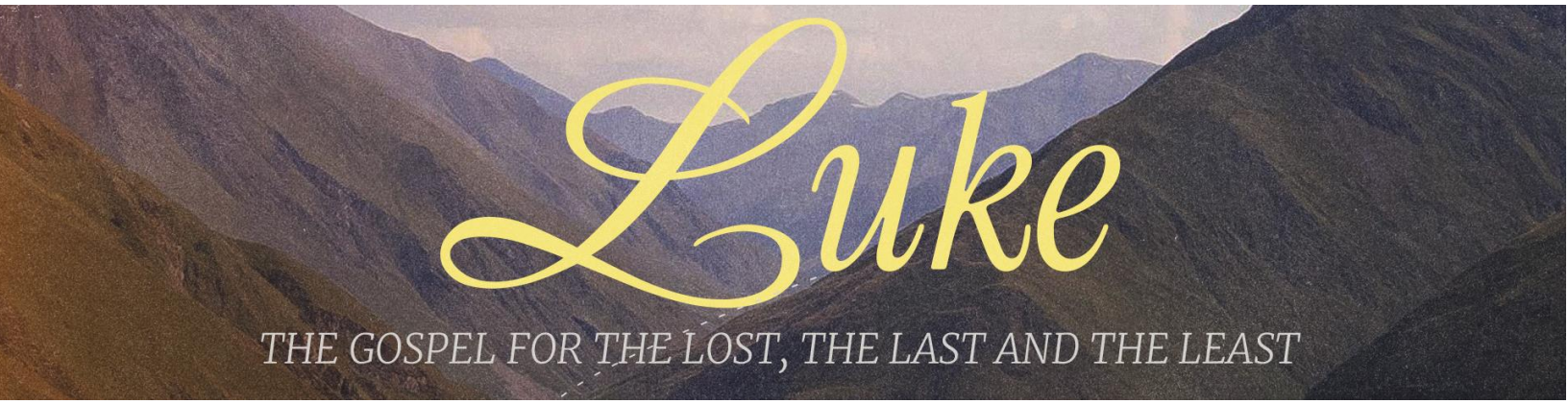


Title: The Woman with The Blood Disorder – From Shame to Strength
Text: Luke 8:42-48 & Mark 5:25-34

INTRODUCTION:

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Insiders	Outcasts
The Healthy	The Sick & Unclean
The Wealthy	The Impoverished & Marginalized
The Ethnically "Pure"	The Ethnically "Mixed" (Samaritans)
The Outwardly Pious and Righteous	The Sinners and Tax Collectors
Jewish Nationalists	Roman Sellouts
Married Men	Unmarried or Divorced Women

A Reminder of the Literary Context of Luke 8: *In a world broken by sin, Jesus alone has the power to deliver.*

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Luke 8:42-48 – As Jesus went, the people pressed around him. 43 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. 44 She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. 45 And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" 46 But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." 47 And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. 48 And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

Big Idea: Faith Conquers Fear

I. The Woman's Suffering

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II. The Woman's Seeking

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III. The Woman's Salvation

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Application Points:

1) There is a difference between being a fan of Jesus and being a follower of Jesus.
2) We need to see the heart of compassion that Jesus has for those who are suffering.
3) Following Jesus means moving toward the people everyone else moves away from.
4) Don't let your identity be defined by your deepest wound.

Life Group Questions:

1) Remember to open your life group with a time to "preach" to each other (a.k.a. proclaim how God has been at work in/through you this past week).

2) Have you ever felt like an outsider in a particular setting (school, work, church, friend group, etc.)? What made you feel that way? What helped you feel welcomed or included?

3) Is there an area of your life where fear, shame, or insecurity is keeping you from drawing closer to Jesus? What would it look like to respond with faith rather than fear this week?

4) The sermon highlighted the difference between being a fan of Jesus and being a follower of Jesus. What is the difference between simply being around Jesus (religious activity, church attendance, Christian community) and genuinely pursuing a relationship with Him? How can we recognize that difference in our own lives?

5) Jesus consistently moved toward people whom society moved away from. Who are some people or groups of people that our culture tends to overlook, avoid, or marginalize? Why do you think it's sometimes difficult for Christians to move toward these people?

6) Think about our Young Adults ministry and your life group specifically. Are there any ways we have unintentionally created "insider" groups or cliques? What would it look like for us to become more intentional about welcoming and pursuing outsiders?

7) The sermon challenged us not to let our deepest wounds become our defining identity. What is a struggle, failure, insecurity, or past experience that you sometimes allow to define you? How might remembering that you are a beloved son or daughter of God change the way you approach that struggle?