

Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole." Mark 5:27

Healing Is Just A Touch Away

One of the foremost stories in the Bible is about the woman with the issue of blood (Mark 5). The woman is unnamed, but her story has lived through the ages. For twelve long years she suffered with a terrible disease that was draining her life away like a plague. She tried everything to rid herself of the affliction. All her money was spent going from doctor to doctor, but she only grew worse.

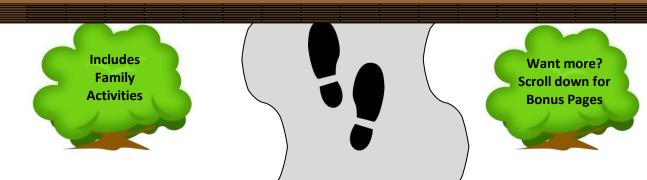
Perhaps she heard someone talking about Jesus one day. Maybe she heard that He was a healer of all manner of sickness and disease. She must have hoped and prayed that someday He would come to her village.

Just imagine her excitement when she learned that Jesus was nearby. Hope began to rise in her heart. She had to find him! When she did, there were many people crowded around him, but determination and faith drove her on. She pressed her way through the crowd. If she could even touch his clothing maybe she could be healed! Struggling, crawling through the dust, she reached and just touched the hem of his robe. Immediately she felt healing virtue surge through her frail body!

Suddenly Jesus stopped walking, turned, and said, "Who touched me?" Trembling she came forward and told Jesus the truth of what had just happened. She knew there was no need to be afraid as Jesus spoke the sweetest words she had ever heard in her life, "Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague" (Mark 5:34).

Sometimes the obstacles in our lives may seem insurmountable. It's still true that Jesus is near, but we may need to press our way to Him with faith and determination just like the woman with the issue of blood. Praise God, Jesus never changes! He is still in the business of making lives whole.

Family Prayer: "Jesus, thank you for the example of the woman with the issue of blood. Help me to always come to you with that kind of faith and determination, knowing that you are a prayer answering God! In Jesus' name, amen."





Everyone sits in a circle and chooses one person who will sit in the center of the circle with a blindfold over their eyes. One person needs to approach the one in the middle and touch them, then race back to their seats. The blindfolded one then tries to guess who touched them. If they guess correctly, then that person goes into the center. Continue playing until each player gets an opportunity in the circle.

Let's talk

Think of how many people were so close to Jesus that day, but only one really touched him and received the response that she needed. Have you ever been close to Jesus, but not really touched him? Maybe you felt him pass by or watched him from a distance. Discuss some ways that you can make sure that you are the 'one' who reaches Jesus and touches him with your needs.

When all hope was gone, this woman had faith that Jesus could heal her. Can you think of a situation that you feel is hopeless in your life, a family member's life, a friend's life or the world around you? Create a card using your handprint as decoration and write the words 'Touching Jesus changes everything!' Share this card as appropriate. Pray that this person can truly touch Jesus with their situation.



Additional Challenges

Let's take a look at some other miracles Jesus performed In Matthew 8:1-4, Jesus healed a leper. What strange request did Jesus ask of the leper after the healing? What did the leper do?
In Mark 2:1-12, Jesus healed a palsied man. If the man was sick of the palsy, how did he get to Jesus?
In Luke 7:1-10, Jesus healed a centurion's servant. How did Jesus heal him if the servant was home sick?
In Matthew 9:27-31, 2 men followed Jesus. Why? What did they ask of Jesus? Did they receive it?
Mark 7:24-30 tells the story of the Syrophoenician woman's faith. Upon her request for the healing of her daughter, what was Jesus' response? How did she reply? Was her daughter healed?
What did each of these miracles have in common? What did they all have in order for healing to take place?

Unscramble each of the clue words. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

LEVTEW	9
FUSEEDRF	5
CRGANWIL	8
DEOTUCH	11 15
МЕН	13
NTMEARG	2
TIBGEMRNL	
TASOECLSB	14 4
HIFTA	
TENRAODENMITI	3
ESSIU	16 7
LODOB	6
SRDEEPS	
NILAGHE	
OCFILAIFNT	10 12
1 2 3 4 5	Y J 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

The woman with the issue of blood had to press through the crowd

