

To have power is to have strength, ability and control over a particular domain. Jesus, being God, has a power that is infinite, eternal, immutable, consistent and inherent in Himself, with all things being under His domain and control. The question to ask is not “Is Jesus powerful?”, but rather, “Do people trust and believe that He has this power?”

There are two characters in Mark 5:22-34: Jairus and the woman with an issue of blood. In this message, we focus on the woman with an issue of blood who had faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His power to heal her.

1.     Faith Knows Jesus’ Power (Mark 5:22-26): Many knew of Jesus’ power and came to seek Him for help. However, not all truly believed in His power. For the woman, her sickness was very great, with non-stop flowing of blood for twelve years. Surely, this caused her great pain and weakness, as well as prevented her from worshipping God as she was considered unclean. She “*had suffered many things of many physicians*” (Mark 5:26), and “*had spent all that she had*” trying to be cured. Here, we see man’s power being contrasted against God’s power. Indeed, man’s power, like the attempts of the physicians to cure her, is so lacking, frail and limited! However, Jesus’ power is not like man’s power, for He is able to heal the sick, cast out demons, calm the sea and even raise the dead. So why do we trust in our weak human power? Let us have true faith that understands the power of Christ!

2.     Faith Trusts in Jesus’ Power (Mark 5:27-29): Faith is seen in our actions. The woman did not just stop at having knowledge of Jesus’ power after hearing about Him. She came to Him, and touched His garment, believing that she could be healed. We first see her faith as manifested in her action of touching Jesus’ garment. Then we have a glimpse of her heart of trust in the Lord, believing that Christ had power to heal her, even without Him touching or acknowledging her directly! Her heart could have thought, “If I may touch but His clothes, I shall be whole!” Faith is to trust without sight, to believe and take hold in action of the truth Jesus had revealed to us through His Word. Immediately, her trust was realised, as seen by how she was immediately and genuinely healed! Do we trust that Jesus has power to help us, in all difficulties, and in all our struggles with sin? Let us truly believe that Jesus has power to help in all circumstances. Let us stop taking things into our own hands. We must go to Jesus, and Him alone, instead of looking to man or self!

3.     Faith Confesses Jesus’ Power (Mark 5:30-34): Strangely, Jesus asked, “*Who touched my clothes?*” (Mark 5:30). We know that Jesus, being God, is omniscient. He knew exactly that it was the woman who did so. So why did He ask? First, He did so in order for the woman to know Him and confess Him. Jesus did not just want her to be healed physically only. She needed to be healed of her sins, and then to be identified with Him. If her faith was genuine, she would confess Christ. Second, He did so to allow her to testify of His power. Though the woman was fearful, she was bold to confess Christ, and “*told Him all the truth*” (Mark 5:33): how she had the issue which could not get better by any, except Christ. Through His question, Jesus gave her the opportunity to testify of the power of God, and what He had done for her. Third, Jesus asked this question for her to be sure that her healing had indeed come about by Him. Likewise, as children of God, may we remember, and testify of, how the Lord has worked in our lives with His great power; for indeed it will strengthen our faith to know that He has delivered us many times before. Knowing that Jesus will not and cannot fail, let us fully trust in Him, remember His almighty power, and give all praise to Him!