

Mark 5:21-34

²¹ Jesus got into the boat again and went back to the other side of the lake, where a large crowd gathered around him on the shore. ²² Then a leader of the local synagogue, whose name was Jairus, arrived. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet, ²³ pleading fervently with him. "My little daughter is dying," he said. "Please come and lay your hands on her; heal her so she can live." ²⁴ Jesus went with him, and all the people followed, crowding around him. ²⁵ A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. ²⁶ 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. ²⁷ She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. ²⁸ For she thought to herself, "If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed." ²⁹ Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition. ³⁰ 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?" ³¹ His disciples said to him, "Look at this crowd pressing around you. How can you ask, 'Who touched me?'" ³² But he kept on looking around to see who had done it. ³³ Then the frightened woman, trembling at the realization of what had happened to her, came and fell to her knees in front of him and told him what she had done. ³⁴ And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over." (NLT)

²¹ Después de que Jesús regresó en la barca al otro lado del lago, se reunió alrededor de él una gran multitud, por lo que él se quedó en la orilla.

²² Llegó entonces uno de los jefes de la sinagoga, llamado Jairo. Al ver a Jesús, se arrojó a sus pies, ²³ suplicándole con insistencia: —Mi hijita se está muriendo. Ven y pon tus manos sobre ella para que se sane y viva. ²⁴ Jesús se fue con él, y lo seguía una gran multitud, la cual lo apretujaba.

²⁵ Había entre la gente una mujer que hacía doce años padecía de hemorragias. ²⁶ Había sufrido mucho a manos de varios médicos, y se había gastado todo lo que tenía sin que le hubiera servido de nada, pues en vez de mejorar, iba de mal en peor. ²⁷ Cuando oyó hablar de Jesús, se le acercó por detrás entre la gente y le tocó el manto. ²⁸ Pensaba: «Si logro tocar siquiera su ropa, quedaré sana.» ²⁹ Al instante cesó su hemorragia, y se dio cuenta de que su cuerpo había quedado libre de esa aflicción. ³⁰ Al momento también Jesús se dio cuenta de que de él había salido poder, así que se volvió hacia la gente y preguntó: —¿Quién me ha tocado la ropa? ³¹ —Ves que te apretuja la gente —le contestaron sus discípulos—, y aun así preguntas: "¿Quién me ha tocado?" ³² Pero Jesús seguía mirando a su alrededor para ver quién lo había hecho. ³³ La mujer, sabiendo lo que le había sucedido, se acercó temblando de miedo y, arrojándose a sus pies, le confesó toda la verdad. ³⁴ —¡Hija, tu fe te ha sanado! —le dijo Jesús—. Vete en paz y queda sana de tu aflicción. (NVI)

Notes:

- A. After healing the man possessed by the Legion of demons, Jesus and the disciples crossed back over the lake to its western side. When they arrived, a large crowd gathered around Jesus.
 - a. In this crowd two individuals needed miracles, believed that Jesus could perform the miracles, and acted in faith on their belief (spoiler alert: Jesus proves fully capable, as He is successful in performing the needed miracles).
 - i. A man named Jairus had a daughter who was dying (she was almost dead).
 - ii. A woman who was suffering from a flow of blood that had lasted twelve years.
 - b. Both of their situations had reached a point where all human efforts had failed—but they had heard of Jesus and believed that Jesus could help. They both acted on that belief—they had faith in Jesus.
 - c. Jesus is effective in both their situations and shows once again that He loves humanity and came to restore, heal, and save it, and He once again does things that only God can do.
 - d. It will take us two weeks to get through these accounts, but they belong together. This section is another example of one story in the middle of another one (the Markan sandwich). Jairus and his daughter make up the 'top & bottom bun' of the sandwich, and the woman with the blood flow makes up the middle filling—but remember, both stories make up one 'sandwich' and are meant to be experienced as one 'bite'.
- B. Jesus and Jairus Part 1:
 - a. Jairus saw Jesus,
 - b. 'Fell at Jesus' feet' out of respect,
 - c. Pleaded with Jesus to: come with him and heal his daughter who is dying (a pretty big request!).
 - d. Jesus goes with Jairus.
 - i. Along the way, the woman who has the blood flow problem encounters Jesus. We will resume Jesus' rescue mission with Jairus' daughter next week.
- C. Jesus and the woman with the blood flow.
 - a. The woman's condition:
 - i. She had been suffering with this problem for twelve long years,
 - ii. She had sought the help of many doctors to help her:
 1. She had suffered from their attempts,
 2. She had spent all of her financial resources,
 3. She had not gotten any better,
 4. Actually, she had gotten worse!
 - b. She had heard of Jesus and she thought that if she could just touch his robe she would be healed. Jesus is her last hope.
 - c. She acted on her reasoning and put her faith in Jesus—she snuck up behind Him through the crowd, and secretly touched His robe. As soon as she touched His robe:
 - i. She was healed immediately and she knew it!

- ii. Jesus also knew it. Even though Jesus didn't see her, He knew that someone had touched His robe and been healed.
- d. Jesus stopped and asked the crowd, "Who touched my robe?"
 - i. The disciples and probably Jairus thought this was an odd and inappropriate question considering the circumstances:
 - 1. Many people have touched Jesus—remember the large crowd is following Him and bumping into Him.
 - 2. They are in a hurry! Jairus' daughter is dying—time is of great importance.
 - ii. Jesus sees the whole picture however, and is determined to identify who had done this for many reasons:
 - 1. The woman simply (and understandably) just wanted a miracle—she wanted to be healed of this terrible problem. Jesus knew that she needed more than just healing—she needed a personal encounter with Him.
 - 2. The woman's faith was partly in Jesus (which was correct), but partly superstitious as well—she thought that there was some type of magical transaction involved with the touching of Jesus' robe. Jesus wanted her to know that He was the only source of the healing power, so her faith needed to be only in who Jesus is (God).
 - 3. He wants her (and all of us) to understand that a relationship with Jesus, or being a follower (disciple) of Jesus, is not simply getting our needs met; instead it is being in the presence of Jesus, being known by Him, and following Him—this is ~~sometimes often~~ most of the time hard! Just to clarify: Jesus does take care of us in incredible ways (more than we need and certainly more than we deserve)—he cares about our needs and is fully capable of handling them (although His definition and our definition of 'needs' ~~can sometimes~~ often differ), but too often we only focus on "our needs" and then get upset, offended, or pout when they are not met. Rather as disciples, we need to focus on being with Jesus (and He will take care of everything else). Discipleship is hard—much of modern American Christianity has forgotten this.
 - 4. Jesus wants the crowd to see the woman's act as a positive example of faith! Many in the crowd had touched Jesus, had listened to Jesus, and even followed Jesus for a while. But this woman acted on her faith—there comes a point when investigating Jesus necessarily involves a decision: (1) to accept Jesus and orient our existence with Him, or (2) to not. Remember the all-important question we have been considering: "Who is this Jesus?"
- e. Jesus and the woman's personal encounter:
 - i. The woman responds to Jesus' question with appropriate fear (remember our discussion from a few weeks ago) and fell to her knees out of respect and thankfulness. She tells Jesus (and everyone in the crowd) that she is the one who touched His robe and why she touched it—she confessed her faith that He could heal her.
 - ii. Jesus responds to her words and actions with love, acceptance, compassion, and assurance:
 - 1. Jesus calls her *daughter*,
 - 2. Compliments her faith,
 - 3. Tells her to 'go in peace'
 - 4. Assures her that her suffering is over!