



A HEALING TOUCH

THEMES: Trusting God with Our Deepest Needs

Luke 8:45 -Who touched me?

She had the same sickness for 12 years, with no relief. But, on this day, the Woman was following Jesus. He was the teacher who could give sight to the blind, make the deaf hear and heal all sicknesses. The Bible doesn't say how long she followed Jesus in the crowd. She believed Jesus had the power to heal, but she didn't want to attract attention to herself. So, she struggled with sickness and with fear of attention...at a distance. Yet, one of those needs was greater than the other. She pushed her way through the crowd and barely touched the fringe of his garment, hoping for a healing touch.

Two things instantly happened. Her bleeding stopped, and Jesus stood still. This meant everyone in the crowd stopped. Jesus wasn't angry, but he was purposeful with his question: "Who touched me?" She probably thought she could just slip away unnoticed. Even his disciple was telling Jesus there were many people pressing in the crowd. Still, Jesus insisted that someone had touched him and he felt healing power flow out of him. So, the woman came forward, trembling and fearful of what would happen next. But she was healed! She was different! Now, with all eyes on her, she fell at Jesus' feet, sobbing and telling her pitiful story. What relief she must have felt when Jesus called her daughter and confirmed her miracle. Jesus said, "*Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.*" **Luke 8:48.** This woman believed in the miraculous power of Jesus and expected to be healed. What she didn't expect was the acceptance, love and assurance that came from the Healer. Not only does Jesus have the miraculous power to change you and I, he wants to be in relationship with us. After every answered prayer and powerful miracle in our lives, there is a God who likes to surprise us with his love.

DO YOU WANT TO GO DEEPER?

REFLECTION/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: Would this Woman have received her healing, if she stayed back in the crowd? Can you relate to the way she did not want to draw attention to herself? Do you have a situation in life that you cannot seem to fix?

(Example: relationship, finances, sickness, sin); Are you afraid to approach God with the situation?

PRAY: *God, give me the courage to bring my deepest need to you and trust your divine response.*

MORE SCRIPTURES: Matthew 9:35-36; Malachi 4:2; I John 4:4; Jeremiah 8:22; Acts 2:37-29

When We Turn to Jesus, He Gives More than What We Expect.