

Tusculum Hills Baptist Church  
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Sermon title: Healing Someone While on the Way to Resurrect Someone, Mark 5:25-34

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**INTRODUCTION:** Here's a short review from last week:

Jesus and his disciples were on a boat in a storm. Jesus slept while the storm raged.

- The disciples woke Jesus, and he calmed the storm. This proved his power over the natural world.
- Then Jesus cast demons out of a man. This proved his power over the supernatural world.
- Then Jesus went to Jarius' home and resurrected his dead daughter. This proved he had power over the point at which the natural and supernatural intersect—death.

I have three main points to my message today:

1. Jesus met the woman in the crowd at her level of understanding.
2. Jesus knew someone had reached out to him.
3. Jesus called her “daughter.”

On the way to Jarius' home, a large crowd followed Jesus, and the scripture says they pressed around him. Let's read Chapter 5, verses 25-34.

**SCRIPTURE:** Mark 5:25-34 <sup>25</sup> *And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. <sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” <sup>29</sup> Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.*

<sup>30</sup> *At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”*

<sup>31</sup> *“You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’ ”*

<sup>32</sup> *But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.* <sup>33</sup> *Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.* <sup>34</sup> *He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”*

**EXPLANATION:** This incident happened while Jesus was on his way to help Jarius’ daughter. Notice some differences between Jairus and the woman. Jarius had a name; the woman was anonymous. We never know her name. As a synagogue leader, Jarius would have been well-to-do; the woman had spent all her money. Jarius was an important person; the woman was no one special. Jarius was a leader in the synagogue; the woman’s condition prevented her from entering the synagogue. Jarius’ daughter was 12 years old; the woman had the bleeding condition for 12 years.

### **FIRST, JESUS MET HER AT HER LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING.**

**EXPLANATION:** Her thought was: *“If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed”* sounds superstitious, doesn’t it? People asked Jesus for healing, but I don’t recall anyone else asking to touch Jesus’ clothes in order to be healed.

Since she had a bleeding problem, she was ceremonially unclean, and by law, was prohibited from going to the synagogue. You see, these people were still living under the Law of Moses.

**SCRIPTURE:** Leviticus 15:19 says, <sup>19</sup>*“When a woman has her regular flow of blood, the impurity of her monthly period will last seven days, and anyone who touches her will be unclean till evening.”*

**EXPLANATION:** This means she was ceremonially unclean and had not been in the synagogue for over 12 years. In all honesty, her religion had become irrelevant

to her because she could not participate. And, since she'd spent all her money on doctors, they had become irrelevant to her as well.

So, in her mind and in her simple level of understanding, she thought, *“If I can just touch his clothes, I will be healed.”* News about this young miracle worker named Jesus had spread to the point she knew he was her last hope. Everyone else had failed her.

**APPLICATION:** Jesus meets us wherever we are in the journey, no matter how whole or broken we may be, no matter how rich or poor we may be, no matter how healthy or unhealthy we may be. Jesus specializes in meeting us right where we are.

**ILLUSTRATION:** A friend of mine worked at a well-known church and told me there was a rule that in order for the ministerial staff to approach the pastor, they had to be dressed up and wearing a tie. How stupid of a pastor to think he's so important. Isn't it good Jesus meets us where we are, in whatever condition we are, in whatever physical or mental state we are?

**BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATIONS:** Nicodemus came to Jesus, as he was, with spiritual questions. A woman caught in the act of adultery was standing in front of a bunch of accusers. Jesus confronted the accusers, and one by one, they left, leaving only Jesus and the woman. Jesus met her right where she was.

**APPLICATION:** Jesus will meet you right where you are today. For those watching by TV today...who knows what physical condition you are in? Some of you may be watching from your bed at home, in your living room, in bed at the hospital, maybe while you are getting ready for church or getting ready to go on a trip. Jesus will meet you where you are.

And, because of Jesus, no one is prevented from coming to him because they are ceremonially unclean.

You may be listening today and think: “I don't understand Jesus' saving grace completely, but I understand a little.” Folks, Jesus will meet you at your level of understanding.

Not only did Jesus meet the woman at her level of understanding ...

## **SECOND, JESUS KNEW SOMEONE HAD REACHED OUT TO HIM.**

The scripture tells us other people pressed against him. We've all experienced large crowds. We've all bumped into people accidentally. And, the disciples said, "Hey there are lots of people crowding against you, and you wonder who it was?"

This is a perfect illustration of Jesus. In the middle of the noise and bustle of the crowd, Jesus knew someone had touched his clothing. He knew that touch was particularly different than the others. Why? Because the woman's touch was a touch of faith. All the other touches from people had no meaning. They were merely inconsequential touches caused by bumping into each other.

What I like about this part of the story is Jesus was on his way somewhere when this incident happened.

**ILLUSTRATION:** How many of you cannot stand getting sidetracked when you are headed somewhere? That's me! When I'm driving, I can't stand detours. When I'm shopping, I'm a man on a mission. I don't get very distracted by sales or gimmicks, and once I've got what I want, I'm out the door. God has shown me, though, more than once that sometimes detours are by divine design!

**APPLICATION:** We learn something very important from this part of the story: Don't be so headstrong in getting to your destination, you miss being a blessing or receiving a blessing.

Jesus was on a 911 call to Jarius' house, but he took time out to meet a need. Jarius' need was not more important than the anonymous woman's need.

**EXPLANATION:** The scripture says Jesus realized power had gone out from him when she touched him. That's an interesting statement, isn't it? The word "power" in the original Greek language is *dunamis* meaning "strength, ability, power." This word is used 33 times in the New Testament, and is best translated in this context as "miraculous power." Jesus felt the miracle of the healing leave his body! He felt the

power of Almighty God leave his body for hers. How fascinating! This means he didn't originate the miracle, but she did by her own faith.

Her touch was different than others' because there was no faith involved in the others' touches.

Let's review—

- Jesus met her at her level of understanding,
- Jesus knew someone had reached out to him, and—

### **THIRD, JESUS CALLED HER “DAUGHTER.”**

**EXPLANATION:** This is significant because she starts out as “woman,” then becomes “she” and “her,” and then “who.” She was truly an anonymous person in the crowd, but when she fell at his feet trembling and told him she was the one who had touched him, he then called her “daughter”.

Again, there is some Greek translation at work here. In the New Testament, this word “daughter” appears 13 times. In one occurrence, the phrase is used “daughter of Zion,” referencing the people of Israel, but in every other case, “daughter” literally means the offspring of a man or woman. Since she was not Jesus' literal daughter, then Jesus meant she was now a part of his family—his spiritual family. She was no longer a woman in the crowd. She was the daughter of Jesus. We still don't know her name, but it no longer matters. Being in Jesus' family is more important.

As far as I know, this is the only time when Jesus looked at a woman and called her “daughter.”

When Jesus called her “daughter,” he met her greater need. And, that need was for her to be his child. You see, she thought her real need was to be physically healed, and of course, that was a need. Twelve years of a blood issue, twelve years of dying and not knowing what tomorrow held—that was her life. She'd tried everything else. Her goal in touching his clothing was to be physically healed.

**SCRIPTURE:** Galatians 3:26 <sup>26</sup>*So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,*

**APPLICATION:** Jesus provided physical healing and spiritual healing. Please understand this: I don't see how a person can pray and have faith for physical healing and not have faith for spiritual healing.

**CONCLUSION:** Here are some final thoughts...

What if the woman had given the common excuses?

- “The crowd is too big. I'd better not go. I'll never get to see him.”
- “What will people think if I reach out to Jesus since I'm ceremonially unclean?”
- “Jarius is more important. I'm a nobody.”

But, she went in spite of the crowd. She didn't care what people thought. She knew she was a nobody, but Jesus had the power to make her somebody.

Then Jesus said, “Go in peace and don't suffer anymore.”

**ILLUSTRATION:** Let me bring it all home . When you have an encounter with Jesus, everything changes. A young friend of mine told me about his wife in the latter stages of cancer. It's amazing how she's held on. A while back, he looked at his wife and said, “Baby, we've got this thing. We know Jesus, and because of that, everything will be OK. Either he'll heal you here, or he'll heal you in heaven.”

**SCRIPTURE:** Romans 8 tells us <sup>38</sup> *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

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I use the NIV translation of scripture because of its conversational nature. Feel free to go to Bible Gateway and copy and paste whichever translation you want to use. This transcript has been edited to an outline format that improves readability and therefore may not exactly follow the video edition.

Find me at [www.thbc.com](http://www.thbc.com) Click on sermons or YouTube channel: Pastor Paul Gunn  
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Sincerely, Paul Gunn  
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