



Message Reflections

November 15, 2020

In this week's sermon, we reflected on the healing of a woman who had been bleeding for 12 years. The story comes to us in **Mark 5:24-34**, and it is an incredible example of desperate faith! In this story, we see Jesus ignoring the social norms of "clean and unclean," and graciously accepting this woman's act of faith. She is healed and then offered a life of peace (wholeness and completeness).

Here are a few questions from this passage for you to consider this week. They are meant to be reflective, and they may take some time to really process and to think through.

1. Are there things in your life right now that feel "desperate" to you? (Examples: Covid, the political climate, your health, relationships...). Take some time to list those things...

2. Are there things that you feel desperate about spiritually in your life? (Examples: loved ones who are away from Christ, your own personal relationship with Christ...)

Now, I have a little harder question that may take some more time to reflect and pray for...

3. Are there some spiritual things that you should feel desperate about, but have ignored in your life? (Examples: sin habits in your life, or people who you haven't shared the love of Jesus with, or not growing in your relationship with Jesus...). Take some time to list those as well...

Prayer:

“Father, I want to bring all of these things to you—all of the things that feel out of control and desperate. I thank you for the example of this woman in Scripture who was willing to act in her desperation and reach out to you. I desire to be healed in the same way, and I ask for your peace as well. At the same time, I confess that there are areas that I have become numb to—things that I should be desperate for. Specifically, I confess these things _____ (from question #3). Please help me to understand how desperate I am for your grace, and how serious my spiritual condition really is. I am a sinner in desperate need of your grace! Please help me to live boldly for you. Amen.”

I pray that this true story from Scripture encourages and challenges you as much as it has me.

Todd