

“Who Touched Me?”

Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48

There is something special in the touch of Jesus—He touched the lame and they walked; the blind could see; lepers were cleansed; little children were blessed; and the dead were raised.

It’s the touch of God that makes the difference (in singing; teaching; preaching).

But, our text is not about Jesus touching the woman, but the woman touching Jesus that brings healing. Instead of singing “*He Touched Me,*” she would sing, “*I Touched Him.*”

To understand the meaning of the question Jesus asks, we must see the background of the question.

I. The WOMAN who came.

➡ What brought her to Christ? All who come to Christ basically come because of two things:

A. She was **driven** by her CONDITION. She was sick—“*They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are SICK*” (Luke 5:31). SHE HAD A NEED.

1. You will never come to Jesus until you realize you NEED HIM. Before Jesus can help you, you must recognize your need.
2. You know there is a void in your life only Jesus can satisfy.

B. She was **drawn** by her CONVICTION. She had faith if she could touch Christ’s garment she would be healed (see Heb. 11:6).

1. How did she come to this conviction? (cf. Mk. 5:27—“*When she heard of Jesus...*”). It didn’t say, she heard Jesus, but “*she heard OF Jesus.*” “*Faith cometh by hearing...*” Somebody TOLD her about Jesus! Somebody CARED enough.
2. They must have told her in a very CONVINCING way. This woman had probably “heard it all” and “tried it all.”
 - If someone would have just dropped by and causally said, “There is a man passing by, and I think if you can touch

Him you'll be healed," she probably would not have believed it.

3. We don't know who told her, but it could have been a friend who was healed in Luke 6:19 (A lame person; blind person).
 - "Look at me—I touched Jesus and He healed me! And if you'll just touch Him, He'll heal you also! What He's done for me, He can do for you!"

II. The TOUCH that made a *change*.

A. The PROBLEMS in touching Jesus. She was convinced Jesus could heal her, but coming to Him would not be easy.

1. A PHYSICAL problem. She did not have a disease of the blood, but an ISSUE (flowing; running; seepage) of blood. She was losing blood. She had been hemorrhaging for 12 years. She was dying.
 - You can live without a lot of things—But blood ain't one of them (Lev. 17:11).
 - Can you imagine what she looked like after 12 years of hemorrhaging? PALE, WEAK.
2. A PEOPLE problem (vs. 40, 42, 45 cf. 9:14).

She feebly gets up and begins to make her way down the street to where Jesus is. She sees the multitude of people. The devil whispers, "You'll never make it. You might as well quit and go home." She may have hummed a little chorus of, "I've come too far to turn back now!"

3. A PURITY problem (Lev. 15:19-27). We cannot begin to imagine all the ramifications of this woman's infirmity.
 - She was forbidden to have any human physical contact
 - Her disease prevented from the joy of being a mother.
 - She was barred from public worship at the Temple.

How would you feel if you could not touch or be touched by another human being for 12 years. How she must have longed to feel the touch of another person.

- B. The PERSUASION in touching Jesus. The woman reached out her hand and touched Jesus' garment. What was it that moved her hand? Her faith.
- C. The POWER in touching Jesus.
1. She was instantly healed. She got what she came for!
 2. She was completely healed and felt it (vs. 44, 48). Christ did a complete work. The problem was stopped ("*stanch*") and she was normal ("*whole*") again. Christ completely saves.
 - When a person truly "touches" Jesus, they will never be the same.

➡ Not only did the woman "feel" the virtue of Christ's power (Mk. 5:29), but Jesus felt it also! Have you touched Jesus lately *so He can feel it?* How long has it been since you've touched Jesus in a way that caused Him to stop and take notice—"*Somebody hath touched Me?*"

➡ Many in the crowd were touching Jesus. But ONLY ONE touched Him in a way that caused virtue to go out of Him. Power goes out from God and comes into you when you touch Him in the right way.

III. The QUESTION asked by Christ.

- ➡ When Jesus asked this question, He knew He was speaking to only one person—For only one person in the crowd would know why He asked.
- A. A SURPRISED question— An instance when Jesus did not exercise his omniscience.
1. Her touch got Christ's attention, because it drew divine power from His person—Power He usually had to extend as an act of His will!
 2. This woman *took* from Christ what others had to ask Him for. **Jesus was impressed!**
- B. A SERIOUS question (v. 45). Peter questioned Jesus's question. He thought Christ's question was ridiculous. Christ does not ask dumb questions. Jesus asked the question again showing it's importance (v. 46). He would not be put off without an answer.

- C. A SEARCHING question. Jesus was not asking for His benefit. Jesus is giving the woman the opportunity to testify what He did for her. **Divine blessing deserves a public testimony.**
1. Our faith is not to be kept private. It should be acknowledged openly in public for it to make a difference in others lives.
 2. Her public confession and Christ's confirmation of her healing paved the way for her to be integrated back into society after 12 years of isolation.
 - The woman was a "nobody." Don't even know her name.
 - The woman became "somebody" (v. 46).
 - The woman told "everybody" (v. 47).

SUMMATION: Verse 48— He doesn't call her "woman" (cf. vs. 43, 47); He calls her "*daughter*." I enjoy talking to the little girls of our church. I'll call them "sweetheart," but I never call them "daughter." There are only four girls in this world that I call "daughter." I call them "daughter" because they BELONG TO ME—Their mine.

I believe when Jesus called this woman "*daughter*," it was His way of saying, "Welcome to the family. You belong to Me now."

IN THIS WOMAN, WE CAN SEE OURSELVES:

1. We have a sickness unto death—Sin.
2. We were all condemned under the Law.
3. Our only hope is make contact with Jesus.

You cannot physically touch Jesus today, as this woman did in our text. But you can "touch" Jesus spiritually with your prayers. You can reach out to Him by faith and confess your need to Him. Hebrews 4:15-16.

How many here this morning have a need that only Jesus can meet— You're depressed, discouraged, desperate. How many will say, "If I could just touch Jesus, I know things would be alright. I need to touch Jesus." How many will come this morning and reach out in faith to touch Him? How many will come and touch Jesus so He feels your touch.

➡ If Jesus asked this congregation here this morning, "*Who touched Me?*" could you raise your hand and say, "It was ME!"