

Mark 5:21

by Chuck Smith

The sermon highlights the importance of touching Christ with faith to bring a response and experience healing.

Scripture: Matthew 9:20-22, Matthew 17:20, Mark 5:21-34, Luke 8:43-48, John 14:13-14, Romans 10:17, Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 4:19, Hebrews 11:1, James 5:15

Topics: "Faith", "Healing"

Description

Chuck Smith explores the profound question posed by Jesus, 'Who touched me?' amidst a thronging crowd. He emphasizes that while many were physically close to Jesus, only one woman, suffering from a long-term illness, touched Him with a faith that demanded a response. This woman's touch was different; it was a touch of faith that activated her healing, illustrating that true contact with Christ requires intentionality and belief. Smith encourages listeners to recognize the difference between merely being in proximity to Jesus and genuinely reaching out to Him in faith, as those who truly touch Him will be transformed.

Transcript

"WHO TOUCHED ME?"

I. A STRANGE QUESTION TO DISCIPLES.

A. As usual Jesus was being mobbed.

1. He probably had difficulty walking because of the press.

a. I can see Jairus slightly ahead of Him trying to clear a path through crowd.

b. Hundreds are thronging, jostling, shoving, pushing.

2. The disciples said, "You've got to be kidding, look

how the crowd is jostling you, and you say, who touched me?"

II. A SELECTIVE QUESTION.

A. In all the pushing, shoving crowd one touched Him.

1. The disciples say, "hundreds have touched you.
2. "No, they have jostled Me, but one has touched Me."

B. There is a touch that makes a demand on Christ, there are touches that make no demand.

1. You can be near to Him yet far away -
2. You may look into His eyes and never see Him -
3. You may sit here this morning, sing the songs, pray the prayers, hear the Word, and never contact Him.
4. It is possible to touch Christ in such a way that it brings no response.
5. It is possible to touch Him in such a way that it demands a response from Him.

III. WHO TOUCHED HIM?

A. Out of the crowd there came a woman trembling and falling at His feet.

1. She had a sickness that had caused her to be excommunicated from the temple.
2. It gave her husband a right to divorce her.
3. It weakened her every day.
4. It caused her to be considered unclean, and everything she touched to be unclean.
5. By human standards it was incurable.
 - a. She had spent her entire fortune going to

doctors, but was no better off.

b. In fact, she was worse off for she was now broke, and her sickness was not cured.

IV. HOW DID SHE TOUCH HIM?

A. What made her touch any different from the hundreds who were thronging Him?

B. Hers was the touch of faith.

1. In her heart she had said, "If I can just touch His clothes, I shall be whole."

2. In all the jostling crowd one was moving toward Him with purpose to touch Him.

C. The touch had become a point of contact to release faith.

1. It seems that faith often exists in three forms, passive, active, and activated.

a. Passive faith is more or less believing that God can do it.

1. It doesn't move mountains, in fact it doesn't move much of anything.

2. But He created the universe so He can pretty much do anything.

b. Active faith believes that God will do it.

1. It anticipates the day He will.

c. Activated faith believes He will do it now!

D. We often need a point where we activate our faith.

1. This was, I believe, the purpose in Jesus touching so many people as He healed them.

2. The value of laying on of hands.

E. Notice Jesus said to the woman, "thy faith" hath made thee whole.

1. Not thy touch.

2. It is the touch of faith that brings a response.

3. Today, here amidst the crowd who have gathered some are going to touch Him and go home whole.

V. THOSE WHO TOUCH HIM WILL BE TOUCHED BY HIM.

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