

THE TALE OF TWO MIRACLES
THE WOMAN THE DAUGHTER: WHEN FAITH MOVES IN SILENCE

A. BACKGROUND

- This sermon series explores two powerful, intertwined miracles in Mark 5: the healing of a woman who had suffered for 12 years, and the raising of a 12-year-old girl from the dead. These miracles are intertwined by time, but distinct in testimony.
- In this series, we'll examine how Jesus meets people in moments of desperation, delay, and death — and turns them into divine appointments. We'll discover how He works in ways that may not fit our expectations but always fulfill His perfect plan.
- While Jairus was a man of status, this woman was nameless, broke, and ceremonially unclean. Yet both needed Jesus. And both had to choose faith in the face of fear.
- Today, we focus on the woman — the one who bled in silence, suffered in isolation, and still reached for Jesus.
- **Mark 5: 21 - 43:**

²¹ When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. ²² Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. ²³ He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." ²⁴ So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. ²⁵ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶ 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. ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." ²⁹ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

³⁰ At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" ³¹ "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" ³² But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. ³³ Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

³⁵ While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

³⁶ Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

³⁷ He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." ⁴⁰ But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha koum!*" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). ⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

B. THE WEIGHT OF BEING "UNCLEAN"

- **Scripture:** Leviticus 15:25-27
- Under Levitical law (Leviticus 15:25-27), this woman wasn't just unwell — she was unclean. Here's what that meant:
 - physically contaminated;
 - socially isolated;
 - relationally rejected; and
 - spiritually cut off.
- Everywhere she went, her presence declared: "*I make things dirty. I ruin what I touch. I don't belong.*" She had likely missed 12 years of:
 - Worship in the temple;
 - Physical touch;
 - Emotional intimacy; and
 - Normal human connection.
- Modern parallels for men: What are Today's "Issues of Blood":
 - Secret sin (pornography, addiction, dishonesty);
 - Emotional bleeding (grief, father wounds, rage);
 - Silent guilt from failure as a husband, father, provider; and
 - Anxiety, burnout, isolation, spiritual drift.
- Many of us are still functioning, but we're also bleeding.

C. FAITH PERSISTED THROUGH PAIN

- **Scripture:** Mark 5:26; Romans 5:3; Isaiah 42:3
- **Summary:** This woman's condition made her unclean, unseen, and untouched for over a decade. This woman had been bleeding for longer than some people had been alive. She was: physically weak, financially drained, socially isolated, and spiritually excluded. Yet somehow... her faith survived. She didn't have a loud faith, but she had a lasting one. She'd lost everything — money, strength, hope. But not her faith. Even when the doctors failed, the pain increased, and time passed... she still believed Jesus could do something.
- **Key Truth:** Pain can *redefine us* if we're not careful. But persistent faith—even if it's tired—keeps you *moving toward* the One who can restore. Faith that survives pain is the kind that draws heaven's power. Pain doesn't always crush faith — it can purify it. Brothers — some of you have endured 12 years of struggle. Some of you are running on fumes. But that flicker of faith in you? It's enough to move heaven.

- **Reflection:** God doesn't need your strength. He responds to your reach. Don't let pain rewrite your identity. Let it refine your pursuit. *Where am I bleeding and pretending I'm not? Where have I let long-term pain rewrite my identity?*
- **Prayer Point:** Lord, don't let my pain bury my faith. Give me endurance while I wait.

D. FAITH SPOKE FIRST — THEN REACHED OUT

- **Scripture:** Mark 5:28; Romans 10:17; James 2:17; James 4:8; Hebrews 11:6
- **Summary:** She didn't raise her hand. She didn't cry out. She didn't make a scene. She reached. She made a *move* — quietly, intentionally, in faith. And that quiet faith pulled power out of Jesus. Faith didn't start with her fingers — it started in her mouth. She preached to herself before she acted. The Greek word for "touched" (haptomai) isn't a brush — it's deliberate contact. This wasn't loud faith. It was *internal conviction* — quiet, but intentional.
- **Key Truth:** The crowd touched Jesus, but only one person's faith connected with Him. Faith begins in your self-talk, but it finishes in your step. She didn't wait to be noticed. She didn't ask for permission. She reached. Brothers, some of the strongest moves you'll ever make won't be loud. Jesus doesn't respond to noise. He responds to faith. Many of us are stuck because we never act on what we believe. We hear sermons. We feel conviction. But we stay in the crowd. We never *reach out*. You need bold movement. Faith isn't just what you *believe* — it's what you *do*.
- **Reflection:** Faith doesn't begin on the outside. It starts in the mind, in the mouth, and then moves through your hands. *What am I saying to myself in private? What truth must I speak — then act on?*
- **Prayer Point:** Jesus, help me stop waiting to be rescued. Give me the courage to reach for You today.

E. FAITH NOT ONLY HEALED — IT RESTORED IDENTITY

- **Scripture:** Mark 5:34; Galatians 4:7; 1 John 3:1
- **Summary:** Jesus could've let her slip away healed... but He stopped the crowd to speak to her identity. She had lived for 12 years as "unclean." Jesus gives her a new name: Daughter. This is the *only time* in the Gospels that Jesus uses this word to address someone. She came for healing, but He gave her belonging. She came to be fixed — but He made her family.
- **Key Truth:** God's greatest miracle may not be in healing your pain, but in renaming you after it. God doesn't just fix problems — He renames people. Faith isn't complete until your identity is healed, too. Brothers, too many of us have settled for behavior management, but not identity restoration. Jesus isn't just trying to fix you. He's trying to rename you. You are: Son. Loved. Seen. Wanted. Clean.
- **Reflection:** You don't just need help breaking a habit. You need the voice of the Father saying: "You are my son. I know you. I see you. And I still choose you." *Have I allowed God to rename me, or am I still living by old labels?*
- **Prayer Point:** Father, call me Son again. I don't want to just be healed — I want to be restored.

F. CALL TO ACTION: FAITH MUST MOVE

- **Scripture:** Mark 5:28
- **Reflection:** She didn't just hope. She didn't just hear. She moved. Brothers, we've heard enough sermons. We've buried enough wounds. Today is the day to *reach*. Whether it's confessing sin, asking for help, calling your father, hugging your child, praying with your wife, or stepping into accountability — let your faith do something. This is not about being perfect. It's about reaching on purpose. *"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence..."* – Hebrews 4:16
- **Key Challenge:** What is one act of quiet, courageous, faith-filled movement you must take this week?

G. CONCLUSION

- The woman's healing didn't come through a stage, a preacher, or a program. It came through one private decision and one simple reach. That same power is available to you, not later... now. You don't need loud faith. You don't need perfect faith. You just need **honest faith that moves**. Even one touch... can rewrite your story.
- **Where are you in the Story:**
 - a) Are you bleeding in silence, afraid to speak up?
 - b) Are you in the crowd, near Jesus, but never reaching?
 - c) Are you longing to hear Him call you "Son" again?