Remnant Life Church

November 1, 2026

Healing

Pt 4

Unusual Circumstances

Mark 5:21-34

As we are looking at some of the healing miracles of Jesus there are many things that we can learn

- Not only from the miracles themselves
- But how they took place
- Because I believe when you look closely at the 23 healings by Jesus as recorded in the 4 Gospels…
    - You can see that a pattern emerges
    - There are common elements about all of them
    - All of them except for one
        - One miracle of healing that was unlike all the others but is perhaps one of the strongest demonstrations of the single most important component that must be present - faith
        - Bold, unapologetic, not allowing anything to get in its way
        - Faith that can move a mountain

READ – Mark 5:21-34

Now, before we get into what I want us to look at this morning, I want to first share with you 4 fundamental truths that serve as the foundation of this series

Truth #1 – God desires for all of His creation to walk and live in perfect health

Truth #2 - Because of sin we will not walk in perfect health again until we are with Jesus in heaven.

Truth #3 - God still moves today to heal miraculously in accordance with His divine will.

Truth #4 - God will perform those miraculous acts today in the way He chooses meaning they can and will take place in a wide variety of ways.

The woman in this account presents a pretty accurate representation of 21st century Christians

- First, she finds herself in an ongoing place of physical need
    - The treatment of sickness and wounds has been occurring for thousands of years
        - And certainly modern medicine has advanced to places that not long ago were unimaginable
    - Some of the earliest records of treatments were found in ancient Egypt dating nearly 2000 years prior to the birth of Jesus
        - And there are those who feel there is evidence that it goes back even further than that
        - Medical practitioners were prescribing medication in pill form in 500 BC

        - In 420 BC Hippocrates theorized that germs and other natural causes were responsible for sickness and disease
    - Yet are we healthier today than we were 100 years ago?
        - Yes, we live longer but do we live healthier?
        - Many would say no – and I am one
        - Fast food is an unhealthy staple of many people's diets
            - Artificial ingredients have replaced natural ones in the name of preserving foods longer
                - Tastykake's…
        - And as an Italian, flavor has become an afterthought
    - But this woman finds herself dealing with a long-term, unidentified problem that causes her to bleed regularly
        - In the Jewish culture of that day, according to Mosaic law, a woman who was bleeding was considered ceremonially unclean
        - And there were steps that she would need to take to become clean again
            - Because there were laws the people followed, given by God, to deal with those types of situations regardless of who was dealing with them
            - Those are found primarily in Leviticus 15
        - But it went beyond that for this woman in Mark 5
            - Because according to the law, anything she touched was considered unclean
            - Anyone she came in contact with was now unclean
            - Anyone who touched something she had touched was unclean
            - And they were banished from the community of people and the temple until the laws of cleansing were fulfilled
    - Add to her physical problems that she was now nearly wiped out financially by going to every doctor she could find
        - As you are likely very aware, medical costs today are astronomical
            - Doug's last surgical procedure cost $117K
        - And she never improved
- How would you be dealing with the reality that after 12 years of doing everything you could that you were still seeing no results?
    - She was out of options with no more money, likely little time, and certainly devoid of hope
        - Her only "hope" remaining is that she would not bleed to death before finding a cure
    - One word that would certainly apply is desperate
    - She was desperate
        - And in her desperation, she was willing to try anything
        - Even if it meant getting to this man she had heard about who was doing miraculous things

- She would knowingly break every spiritual and societal law she grew up believing – because she was desperate

Let's look at what we know was driving her actions…

- *If I can just touch his clothes, I will be healed.* (Mark 5:28)
- Notice her wording, not I might be healed but I will be healed
  - That is truly faith in action
    - What is the definition of faith?
    - *Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.* (Heb 11:1)
    - And that confidence comes in believing in and trusting in God
      - A trust that must be acted upon
      - Speaking the words of faith and giving God thanks for His love and presence in the midst of the battle
    - Do you know that if you are waiting for your healing to take place before you speak words of confidence and give God the glory, you are not living in faith?
      - I don't mean deny the reality of your circumstances
      - But you cannot continually give life to your sickness by always speaking of its power over your life
  - But to be living and walking in faith means that you are speaking with your mouth the victory before you even have it in your body
- And that is what this woman does
  - If I can just get to Him, just touch His clothes, I WILL be healed

But this was not an ordinary healing, nor did it happen in the normal way

- What do I mean by that?
- Remember when I said that a pattern could be seen in the healings of Jesus?
  - Jesus was almost always with the person in a personal, intimate way
  - He was often addressing them and speaking with them
  - Jesus always touched them to bring the healing
    - The only other exception to that was the healing of the Centurion's servant boy (Matt 8:5-13)
- And not so with this woman
  - This healing took place when Jesus was on His way to somewhere else
    - He was on His way to the home of Jarius to heal or save his daughter
    - Even though Jesus knew this was going to happen, to everyone else this was not a planned encounter
  - Second, this healing took place in the middle of a large crowd of people
    - Most of His miracles took place in private or in the presence of just a few
    - Remember when He got to Jarius' house He told everyone but her parents, Peter, James and John to go out of the room (Mark 5:37-41)

- Third, this is the only healing in the presence of Jesus where He did not touch the person
- Finally, this is the only time of a recorded healing miracle of Jesus where someone received a healing without speaking with Jesus first
  - Remember in John 5 Jesus asked the man at the pool, *Do you want to be healed?* (John 5:6)
  - This forced the man to answer
  - He did not do this out of necessity but in order for the person being healed to understand what was happening

Why is it important to recognize the uniqueness of this healing?

- Because in order for your faith to fully operate you must be willing to accept that God can and will accomplish His purposes, bring you your healing, in any and every environment
  - It is not necessary for you to be in church to be healed
  - It is not necessary to have one particular person pray over you
  - It is not necessary for you to be in a "healing" service or with a specific person
  - The ONLY thing you need is faith in God because He will meet you at your place of need wherever you are!
- How do I know this to be true?
  - Because of what Jesus said to the woman before He went on His way
  - Mark 5:34 – *Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering*
    - He did not say she was in the right place at the right time
    - He did not even say to her that she was right to touch his garment
    - No! – Her faith healed her
      - Faith in what?
      - In the power of God to do the miraculous even when the doctors could not help her
  - And what was the result?
    - Immediately she was healed!
    - And her life was radically changed forever

And then, look who else had their lives changed

- Look at a rather unusual exchange between Jesus and His disciples
- In verse 30 Jesus asks a strange question, *Who touched my clothes?* (Mark 5:30)
- Consider where He is
  - In the midst of a crowd
  - In a culture that did not understand or practice personal space boundaries
  - On the surface, this was a rather silly question
- And it would appear the disciples saw it that way by their response
  - Mark 5:31 - *"You see the people crowding against you," His disciples answered, "and yet You can ask, 'Who touched me?'"*

        - Does anyone else sense a tone of sarcasm in that question?
    - Well, the disciples were about to be taught a lesson on the difference between accidental and intentional
        - Many people were brushing up against Jesus
        - But only one touched Him in an intentional act of faith
            - The action of faith is always one with great purpose
            - Faith requires intention and the resolve to see a situation through in spite of the appearances
    - I wonder which of those applies to you this morning
        - Is your relationship with Jesus one where you bump into Him from time to time?
        - Or is there purpose and intention regarding your time with Him?
        - There is a great difference in them and it can mean the difference between being spiritually healthy and spiritually sick
    - Jesus knew that something unusual had taken place
        - We read that Jesus knew that power had gone out of Him (Mark 5:30)
            - The question was asked: if power went out does that mean there is a limited supply?
                - Do not forget that Jesus was also in human form
                - He got tired, He needed to be refreshed, to eat and rest
                - But He was still God
            - No, this was not about His loss of something
                - It was about His compassion for someone who was hurting so deeply
                - Something the disciples would later come to realize they needed to emulate
    - Notice that Jesus did not even address or answer His disciples
        - Because there was someone very special who needed His attention
        - Someone who was also now terrified at what she had done (Mark 5:33) but who also knew, without a doubt, that she had been healed (Mark 5:29)

The healing power of God can take place at any time, in any setting, by any means God chooses according to His will

- Your part is not to create the right environment or go chasing after the promise of a man
- Your part in your healing is to simply have faith
    - That goes against our flesh nature
    - Nothing good happens without a lot of effort, right?
        - Not true in the Kingdom of God
        - Yes, we have a role to play but it is not one of our effort, it is one in fully believing in His power to heal
    - It is faith and faith alone
        - It is not faith and, or faith but
        - Jesus said to this unusual woman, *Your faith has healed you*