

**Title:** Not Lost in the Crowd

**Passage:** Mark 5:21-34

**Context:**

Two individuals before God in this passage: Man and Woman

- Many contrasts:
  - One named, one not
  - One of position, one unknown
  - One from a synagogue, one excommunicated
  - One with a family, one alone
  - One with a daughter, one with disease
- But both had in common: they both knew that Jesus was their only hope

**Passage:** Mark 5:24-34

And he went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" And he looked around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

**Introduction:**

Passage is a living parable of the Gospel (good news) that Jesus came to preach

John 20:30-31

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- purpose of Gospels: who Jesus is and why He came.
- Here, account with Jairus and woman shows who Jesus is (God Incarnate in flesh) and why He came (to heal and save the lost).
- Son of Man: title referenced to Jesus

*Question of Reflection:*

How do you relate to the lost woman in the Passage? How may you be lost?

- Lost condition of not genuinely believing in the Gospel
- Lost condition of not really knowing who you really are
- Lost condition of not feeling loved
- Lost condition of drifting away and lost intimacy from first love had for God.
- Lost condition of wandering from God and lacking purpose or direction for your life
- Lost condition of past failures or mistakes with guilt and shame
- Lost condition of not knowing you truly are lost (perception of self-sufficiency)

## Overview

Wooman's condition, conviction, cleansing, Jesus' compassion

## Exposition:

Mark 5:24

And Jesus went with him. And a great crowd followed him and was pressing in on Him.

- great crowd = masses of people
- pressing

## I. Woman's Condition

Mark 5:25-26

And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better, but rather grew worse.

*A discharge of blood for twelve years*

- Condition: chronic menstrual disorder

*Implications of condition*

- if she was married at one point, she was likely divorced.
- As a Jew, she would be unclean. Under the Law, anything or anyone she touched would be unclean.
- Socially, she was alone/ostracized as no one would want to interact her for fear of being unclean with even touch.
- Spiritually, she could never go to the local synagogue.

*Who had suffered much under many physicians...and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse*

- suffered from various attempted cures as well as disease.
- Exhausted all available options
- Incurable

*Had spent all that she had*

- Exhausted her finances

*Twelve years*

- Woman was at place of hopelessness.

Proverbs 13:12

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

## II. Woman's conviction

Matthew 5:27-28

After hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak. For she thought, "If I just touch His garments, I will get well."

*After hearing about Jesus*

- woman had heard of Jesus' teaching and actions/miracles

*She came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak*

- touched = grasp / hold on to
- Reflects woman's intention of wanting Jesus, the person.

*If I just touch His garments, I will get well*

- Conviction / clarity in understanding of who Jesus is and what can occur if she meets Jesus.

### **III. Woman's cleansing**

Matthew 5:29

Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.

*Immediately*

- Sudden wave of healing

*She was healed of her affliction*

- affliction = similar to "scourge" (scouraging of crucifixion)

### **IV. Jesus' compassion**

Matthew 5:30

Immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that power had gone out from Him, turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" And His disciples said to Him, "You see the crowd pressing in on You, and yet you say, "Who touched me?"" And He looked around to see the woman who had done this.

*Immediately Jesus perceiving in Himself that power had gone out from Him*

- Jesus felt power had gone out = personal nature of God's power and love.
- Power = like dynamite

*"Who touched my garments?"*

- Jesus entirely knew what happened
- But Jesus asked that question as invitation for her to come forward
- So she could receive the gift of Himself.

### **V. Woman's Confession**

### Matthew 5:33

But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.

*Came in fear and trembling*

- Why fear?
  - She realized who Jesus is: His deity.
  - Like how the disciples were afraid after Jesus calmed the storm.

## **VI. Jesus' Compassion**

### Matthew 5:34

And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

*Daughter*

- Term that only time Jesus used this
- Term of endearment and acceptance

*Your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Be healed of your affliction.*

- Faith = faith in Jesus (not in clothing, external items)
- Your faith = personal, individual faith in Jesus (others were touching Jesus in the crowd but no difference or impact was made on them)
- Made you well = Greek word (salvation)
  - Complete salvation and healing

## **VII. Your Response**

Respond in faith in Jesus. Grasp hold of Him.

*How does cleansing and healing come?*

1. When you recognize and admit my need (woman recognized and admitted her condition)
  - We all have disease of sin. We are all desperate need of a Savior.
  - Admit = to God and perhaps to another person (accountability)

### Luke 18:13-14

But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

2. When you come to Jesus
  - not enough to recognize and admit but actually come. (Woman was healed, but actually came forward)

### Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

3. When you trust Jesus to save you.

- come in simple faith
- Don't focus on quality or amount (faith like a little child, as small as a mustard seed suffices). The key is in Whom have faith = in Jesus

Matthew 18:3-4

and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.