

Week 2: THE REACH OF GOD'S LOVE
DAY 4: HEALED THROUGH FAITH BY GRACE

Luke 8:40-48 (ESV)

And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

A sick woman simply touched a small part of His garment and she was healed. How amazing to think of such a small and seemingly insignificant action that could cure such a major sickness? Jesus' reaction and response reveal that this was no simple act of seeming insignificance. Her action wasn't small. It was huge! Her action was evidence of her faith in Jesus, not simply to heal her physical issue but her faith in Jesus as Lord and the grace that He offered.

If we are not careful, we can sometimes find ourselves seeking God to fix things that are troubling in our lives. We can approach Almighty God and still miss the greatness of His power, love, and mercy. If you had a brain tumor and had access to a brain surgeon, yet only sought her out to address your hangnail you might be missing an opportunity, right? Jesus is the Lord God, and the woman in this historical account realized that and moved in faith just to touch His garment. The great news of the gospel is that He doesn't require great acts for the fullness of His grace to be received. Just as with the sick woman, it is our faith in the Lord Jesus that gives us access to His miraculous grace. Paul writes in Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." His grace is freely offered and effective through our faith!

FAMILY TABLE TALK QUESTION

What does God require of us to receive His powerful love and mercy?

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray that God will reveal the depth of His merciful grace in your life.
- Pray that the Spirit will embolden you to share this great truth with others.

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