

## PCC

4.3.22

### Catch Up

Spend some time catching up as a group. Use the following question as a guide:

**1. What's the last prayer that God answered in your life, and how did he answer it?**

Now transition to the main discussion by answering this question:

**2. Thinking back on Sunday's teaching, what stood out as being particularly comforting, challenging, or confusing?**

### Dive In

Have someone read [Matthew 9:18-26](#) and then discuss the following questions:

**3. What stands out to you about this story of Jesus? What do you notice about his interaction with the leader and the woman, and the way in which he heals both the woman and the young girl?**

- Notice both the urgency and amount of faith from the leader Jairus in approaching Jesus. Notice also that the woman who stops Jesus only mutters her request to herself, yet Jesus knows what she wants and directly addresses her.
- Rather than the uncleanness of the woman transferring to Jesus, Jesus' purity transfers to the woman.

**4. What similarities do you see between Jairus and the sick woman? What role does faith play in their healing, and why do you think Jesus rewards faith?**

- While not dead, the sick woman might as well have been since her illness made her a social outcast. Just like Jairus, she realized her only hope was Jesus. Jesus demonstrated His omniscience, knowing that the woman had touched His garment as an act of humble faith. After assuring the now-whole woman, Jesus continued His journey to Jairus's house.

**5. Share about a time where you felt God was delaying or denying an answer to your prayers. Did you find yourself with an increase of faith, or an increase of frustration?**

Now read [Mark 9:25-34](#) and discuss the following questions:

**6. What details does Mark include in his telling of this story that Matthew doesn't? How do these details add to your understanding of Jesus' interaction with the woman?**

- Mark highlights the severity of the woman's suffering, while Matthew focuses on Jesus' power over her suffering. Mark also places her moment of healing after she touches his robe, but before Jesus speaks to her. Matthew emphasizes her healing after Jesus commends her faith.
- Mark slows the narrative down, emphasizing Jesus' delay in rushing to heal Jairus' daughter. He tells of the woman's fear upon Jesus asking who touched him, and her willingness to expose herself to Jesus by falling before him and telling him the whole truth.

**7. Why do you think the woman responded to Jesus with fear and trembling? What could she have been afraid of?**

- The woman would have been an outcast, seen as perpetually unclean. To approach Jesus with boldness would have exposed her where she may have wished to remain anonymous to Jesus.
- Her fear may also have been partly because, in working her way through the crowd to get to Jesus, she would have touched many other people and thus rendered them ceremonially unclean. Mark notes the theme of fear and shows how it leads to faith.
- She fell down before him and told him the whole truth, which testifies to her confidence in and sincere gratitude toward Jesus.

**8. When have you experienced both the blessing and the burden of following Jesus?**

- Are you missing the joy because you're rushing the sorrow?
- Are you lacking the strength because you're hiding the weakness?
- Are you missing the blessing because you're refusing the burdens?

Spend the last few minutes praying for and encouraging one another.