

FULLNESS: WHY GOD'S PEOPLE COME TO CHURCH

To Be Touched & Made Whole by Jesus

October 16, 2022

SCRIPTURE

Yet the news about Him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Luke 5:12-15, NIV

And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about Him, and He was beside the sea. Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing Him, he fell at His feet and implored Him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." 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 garment, 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 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, and be healed of your disease."

Mark 5:21-34; Luke 8:47, ESV

HEALING and WHOLENESS

We believe healing is available to us because of Christ's work on the cross.

Healing occurs differently in different people depending on many variables (faith, circumstance, purpose, etc.).

Though it can be a mystery, the mature Christian understands there is a place for suffering. Great discernment is needed!

The Smith Wigglesworth conundrum

God may choose to heal immediately (Mark 5:29), gradually (Mark 8:23-25), or ultimately (2 Corinthians 12:8-10).

But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed. Isaiah 53:4-45, NIV

1/ Physical Healing and Wholeness

We believe physical healing is available for those who are suffering in body.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits—who forgives all your sin and heals all your diseases. Psalm 103:2-3, NIV

Until God speaks clearly (as with Paul), we should always pursue physical healing.

2/ Spiritual Healing and Wholeness

We believe spiritual healing is available for those who are lost, who are oppressed or possessed by evil spirits, who are ensnared by sinful habits, who have a misunderstanding of God, among other things.

Examples include Paul, Simon the Sorcerer, and the Canaanite woman's daughter.

3/ Emotional and Mental Healing and Wholeness

We believe emotional and mental healing is available for those who have true trauma, who are victims of abuse, who have emotional damage/baggage, who have chemical imbalances, among other things.

We measure our mental and emotional well-being against the call of Scripture, specifically the Fruit of the Spirit and the Sermon on the Mount.

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints, and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12, NIV

4/ Relational Healing and Wholeness

We believe relational healing is available for those who have broken relationships.

Examples include Peter's restoration and Paul's mending with John Mark.

LESSONS FROM THE LOWLY LADY

1/ Jesus wants us whole on every level.

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

2/ While our faith is needed, it is Jesus' glory that heals.

For she said, "If I touch even His garment, I will be made well."

3/ Jesus will often use extensions of Himself to heal.

And Jesus said, "Who touched My garments?"

Jesus used mud, a garment, spit, and other instruments for healing. But more than anything, He uses the body of Believers to helping in healing.

God often uses counseling, physicians, therapy, and medication to provide healing.

Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 4:14-16, NIV

4/ The reports we have heard about Jesus are true!

She had heard the reports about Jesus.

5/ Jesus is never too busy for us.

And Jesus...immediately turned about.

6/ We are never too broken, dirty, or insignificant to come to Jesus.

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.

7/ Our testimony should follow our healing.

...the woman...declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched Him, and how she had been immediately healed.

8/ We must position ourselves to touch Jesus.

She...came up behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.

Sometimes stepping towards an altar is like pressing through the crowd.

9/ Our proper response before and after healing is to fall at the feet of Jesus.

(Jairus) fell at His feet... But the woman...fell down before Him...

Healing and wholeness begins at the feet of Jesus.

CLOSE

If not careful, you can be an heir to a fortune but never live in its riches.

Perhaps, like Job, God has allowed you to be broken so you can be restored and an encouragement to other people.