

THE BLOOD ISSUE

I heard the Holy Spirit tell me it was time to tell my story a few months ago. I assumed I was supposed to say it during one of the Women's Ministry Events. I was very hesitant, but I resigned to the direction of the Holy Spirit and began the writing process. So, I put pen to paper, but something did not seem right or natural. I finished up the task and placed the story away. Then, one Sunday morning, as I was sitting in church, the Holy Spirit began to speak to me again and was downloading this sermon. It was like a shock or awakening; I had to get this out. I could not contain or hold it in.

The Holy Spirit brought me to the story of the Woman with the issue of blood. **Let's now turn to Mark 5, and we will read verses 21-34 (Read Mark 5:21-34 (ESV))**

- Points
 - On the way to heal the daughter of Jairus, Jesus healed this woman with the issue of blood. How often have we or do we tell ourselves that our issue is not significant enough for us to go to God? Or is he handling something more important or meaningful for someone more deserving or worthy of His time and attention? Her needs were just as important as those of Jairus' daughter. I am/you are necessary to Him.
 - In verse 26, we see that the lady had been suffering for 12 years and spent all her money going to doctor after doctor, and instead of getting better, she got worse. According to the laws in Leviticus 15:25-27, she was considered unclean, and anyone or anything she touched would also be unclean. At this point, she was financially destitute, desperate, lonely, physically and mentally weak, and isolated. Cut off from family, friends, celebrations, gatherings, her temple. Isolated.
 - Verse 27 says that she heard of Jesus of this man healing the sick and asked herself if she could touch the hem of His garment. This took courage on her part because she was looked on like a pariah in her community (according to the

law), but she had nothing else to lose. She was desperate for Jesus.

- Verse 29 – She was immediately healed, not in two days or three hours. Take this pill and see me in two weeks. Immediately – Jesus' healing starts immediately, even if you cannot recognize it. We get caught up in the presentation. It does not always look like what we wanted to see.
- Verses 30-31 Now, how did Jesus decipher this woman's touch from all the others in the crowd? Many people around Him wanted to see or merely touch THE MIRACLE WORKER. They were curious. But her touch was different. You see, she did not want to bump into Jesus. She needed and received access to His Kingdom power and touched Him with a MONDAY MORNING JESUS, I NEED YOU. If you don't do it, it won't get done or can't get done type of faith and not a Sunday morning bump (If I happen to see Jesus).
- Verses 32-34 – Jesus looked around to see who touched my garment (come on 1 out of the 99). He knew nothing occurred to God. God often brings his work out into the open, even if it starts secretly.
- My Story
 - I was a child who grew into an adult with a blood issue. My childhood made me angry with God. I would wake up in the morning and be angry that I was alive. I could not understand why God was doing this to me.
 - There was a point in my life where you would get a professional eye roll if you mentioned God, Jesus, or prayer in my presence.
 - Adopted as a child into a volatile household and left with a feeling of abandonment and often went to bed hungry. Why pray to a God that let this happen to me? I was ANGRY. I felt cut off from the world and let down

by every adult who was supposed to protect me.

Isolated

- Never told that I was loved.
- Never hugged.
- I was often told that I would not amount to anything.
- When someone outside my family would complement me, a particular family member would come behind them and snatch that compliment with harsh words.
- At the end of my junior year of high school, I slipped into a deep depression, and I do not remember most of that time. This lasted for years.
- When I was 19, my mother passed, and I became even angrier with God. I was robbed of the chance to take care of her the way I wanted her to take care of me.
- I later married and had children, but the pain from my past kept haunting me. So, after two failed attempts on my life, I got professional help. It took a lot of meds, therapy, and love to pull me through.
- That is when I knew that God was there all along and the bad things I experienced in life were not of God. It was because we live in a fallen world. You see, I became desperate for Jesus, and I, in my closet, reached out for Him, and I could feel Him holding me as I sobbed.
- I looked back on my life and saw that I tried everything except The Healer to heal me, and I got worse instead of getting better.
- *Tell of the people that God brought to you who assisted in your healing process:*
 - Once I surrendered to the love of Jesus. I saw His healing power in my life even when I rejected Him and was angry with Him.
 - I met this couple in the church that illuminated the love of Jesus – The Bells (Tell of the church bus

from Trinity Baptist Church in OKC and the couple the Bells.)

- Husband and children – I never wanted a family. I did not think I deserved them and did not want to mess them up. We do not leave each other's presence without giving a hug or expressing our love for each other.
- Mother-in-law and Vanita's hugs.
- Friends at work that talked to me about Jesus
- Chris Perrine – The Bears football team
- West Metro Community Church
- I arrived at my Exodus experience – brought me out of Egypt and waiting to see the promised land. This comes from someone who once could not and would not talk about God. A person who rejected Jesus, His sacrifice, and His love. **TODAY**, you can't get me to shut up. His love saved me, and that same loving power is there for you, too.
- The point is some of our stories of how he came to Jesus are not pretty. There are even harder stories out there. We must be open to hearing them and letting Jesus lead us in the next steps.
- Lastly, in verse 34 we see that Jesus said to the lady DAUGHTER. This is Jesus, He knew her name, why call her daughter and not by her name. The reason is that she belongs to Him. So where do you see yourself in this story. I hope it is as the daughter or son of the Most High King. Who cares for you every burden and Who's healing power is working for you too.