

Luke 8:40 Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him.

Luke 8:41 And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored him to come to his house,

Luke 8:42 for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went, the people pressed around him.

Luke 8:43 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone.

Luke 8:44 She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased.

Luke 8:45 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!"

Luke 8:46 But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me."

Luke 8:47 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.

Luke 8:48 And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

Luke 8:49 While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.”

Luke 8:50 But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well.”

Luke 8:51 And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child.

Luke 8:52 And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, “Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping.”

Luke 8:53 And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead.

Luke 8:54 But taking her by the hand he called, saying, “Child, arise.”

Luke 8:55 And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat.

Luke 8:56 And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

Luke 8:41 And there came a man named **Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue**. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored (invited, beseeched) him to come to his house,

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Jairus was a Jew and his only daughter, about twelve years of age, was dying. “Jew” may represent the chosen believer. His only daughter means that his begetting such as gospel preaching was weak. That his daughter was about twelve years of age may mean that she was the 2nd generation. She was dying, which means that she did not have much care and supply, thus becoming weak and sick and dying.

Praise our Lord, Jairus went to ask the Lord to come to his house to save his only daughter, and the Lord did go to his house with many people around Him. This crowd had a good heart toward her but did not have any means or ability to save her. That is the general situation which often exists in our church life.

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Why did Jesus charge the parents of the restored girl not to tell anyone what had happened, but insisted that the woman with the discharge of blood identify herself and testify?

Do we believe the Lord's word to us? The centurion in Luke 7, the one who had built the synagogue in Capernaum, asked Jesus to simply speak the word, and his servant would be healed. Jesus marveled at such a unique faith, not found anywhere else in Israel. In Luke 8, Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue, implored or begged Jesus to come to his home to heal his daughter. As Jesus was on His way, the daughter died. The father (presumably) sent word to Jesus not to bother coming anymore. Sometimes, we may not believe the Lord's word to us, but the Lord may still perform a miracle, despite our unbelief. Did Jairus and his wife believe in the Lord's word? Do we? Many times, we do not. Yet the Lord still heals or provides us a job. We may then testify that the Lord gave us a job, or healed us, or gave us a good grade. How many prayers did we have, individually and with companions? Did we touch the Lord in our prayers? There is nothing wrong with such testimonies, but such testimonies may not represent the true nature of the Lord. The Lord may act by performing a miracle, but miracles are not His ways. Rather, it is the testimony of the word of life that speaks to us and causes us to come to Him, and to come to the Christ in the saints, that will express who He is.

Luke 8:43 And there was a woman who had had **a discharge of blood** for twelve years, and **though she had spent all her living on physicians**, she could not be healed by anyone.

Luke 8:44 She came up behind him and touched **the fringe of his garment**, and **immediately her discharge of blood ceased**.

The three main negative factors which affect the growth of life of the saints in the church life are that

1. The spiritual food in the church life is short in content of life and in the means of supply (such as accompanying people and being accompanied). The appetite of the saints is not strong. Thus, the saints do not grow in life; **(Mostly the saints have good hearts but without a solid plan)**
2. There are many elements to cause the discharge of blood (meaning life in **Gen.9:4**) which is the leaking of the life of Christ in the saints. No matter what life level one has, once the discharge of blood happens, his or her life will continue to leak until death occurs (no more church life).
3. The discharge of life is so difficult to cure (**though she had spent all her living on physicians**) unless there exists a very healthy church life (**the available fringe of His garment**) including many rich-in-life serving ones with burdens for this.

Gen 9:4 But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.

“And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and **immediately her issue of blood stanchèd. And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?”-Luke 8:43-45**

- The Lord was within a densely packed crowd where He was the epicenter, but who was the one He took notice of?
- He noticed the one who just touched the border of His garment. Most, if not all, people in such a situation wouldn't have noticed!
- The key is/was faith. Power/virtue left Jesus in response to faith. Jesus' attention was won through faith.
- Jesus can only be touched through faith. Many people may try to get His attention with good deeds, but faith is the only way to please Him and receive from Him.
- This message is so beautiful, I believe many people think that they cannot reach Jesus because they are dirty or don't have much faith, but this woman who needed healing, that no one else could give her, only touched the hem of His garment and she became healed immediately.
- Sometimes we may feel like this woman, in need of Jesus, but He is surrounded by so many stronger believers (e.g: Peter), but when we reach out to Him, even the smallest amount of contact/faith will get His attention and He will not turn us away.

Luke 8:43, And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. 44: She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased.

We can imagine the depressed situation of the woman. She had been frustrated by the discharge of blood for twelve years. Although she had been seeking help from different physicians and spent all her living, she was still not healed. She must have been hopeless at that time. When she heard about Jesus who has the mighty power of healing, she didn't want to lose the last opportunity even though she was fearful of asking for help from Jesus publicly due to the uncleanness of her illness. She touched the fringe of Jesus' garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. The healing of her illness was not because of her touch, but her strong faith in Jesus. Matthew 9:21 proved how strong her faith was "for she said to herself, "If I only touch his garment, I will be made well". Are we often in the same situation of the woman? Are we often fully occupied by our study, work, and frustrating things in our daily life? Are we trying to find solutions by our natural ability? You will find that the frustrating problems never disappear in life, but these frustrating problems can become blessings and graces, if we turn to God. They bring us to God and strengthen our close relationship with God. On the other hand, they may become a discharge of blood in our body, if we just focus on the problem itself, because lots of negative things will come out of ourselves when we face the frustrating problems, depending on ourselves. These negative things will keep us away from God. We need to learn from the woman, and try to turn to God with strong faith.

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Luke 8:47 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.

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Someone who presses on Jesus is different from the one who desires to touch Him. The latter one will receive His power but not the former one.

Faith in Christ is the ultimate reward which the Lord gives to a believer for the healing of his or her sickness or weakness (life supply). It comes by knowing ourselves as unworthy ones (falling down before Him) to be healed, touching the Lord including the fringe of His garment (knowing Him, what He has done and His power) and testifying why we touched Him in the presence of all the people (church gatherings).

Faith made her well (**your faith has made you well**). It was also demonstrated in **Mark 2:5**.

Mark 2:5 And when Jesus saw **their faith**, he said to the paralytic, “**Son, your sins are forgiven.**”



Mike Zhang

✿ Luke 8:46 But Jesus said, “Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me.”

The crowd presses, but faith touches. Jesus’ words “Someone touched me” indicate that someone’s faith and heart touched Jesus.

When we use our faith to touch Jesus, we really can gain power from the Lord. We can practice our faith everyday by trying to entrust our small decisions and big decisions to the Lord. The more we practice, the more we can experience the living Lord and gain more faith in Him.

Luke 8:47 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.

The woman touched Jesus secretly and tried to steal away, but Jesus revealed what she had done publicly, and forced the woman to identify herself. Why did Jesus do this? Would it not have been sufficient for Jesus to simply heal the woman and let her go her own way? Jesus was perfecting her, leading her to testify what He had done for her. This testimony was first for her sake, to strengthen and confirm her faith in Him, and was directed to Jesus Himself, as her response to Him. Secondly, it was for the sake of the crowds who were pressing upon Him. Interestingly, it was only after the woman testified that Jesus told her that her faith had made her well.

Our testimony of the Lord's speaking to us, or His work in us, is firstly our response to Him. Our testimony is to God Himself. Secondly, our testimony, especially our written testimony, is for our own sake, to reaffirm our experience, especially when we go through a hardship and are weak and doubt our experience. Thirdly, our testimony is for others and may become a blessing to the church. If we do not testify, we may forget what we experienced, and later question the validity of our experiences. This has happened several times. Many touch the Lord but do not testify, or write down their experience, and later claim that what they experienced was not real. Testimony may be a further step in our salvation.

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Please

1. Grow to be a pillar (**Peter and John and James**) in the church life so that the Lord will teach and guide us more;
2. Grow to be a spiritual parent to shepherd saints (**the father and mother of the child**);
3. Pay great attention to what the Lord does and says (**But taking her by the hand** he called, **saying**);
4. Provide and feed the spiritual food to the needy ones;
5. Follow the leading of the Lord to testify or not to testify (**charged them to tell no one what had happened**). Testimony is for the Lord's pleasure.

Luke 8:52 And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, “Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping.”

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The residents of the house were weeping for the dead girl. Some commentators observe that those who were weeping and mourning may have been professional mourners, hired to create an impressive and convincing atmosphere of sorrow. These mourners had no faith or belief in Jesus, and mocked Him when He said the girl was not dead but sleeping.

What about us? We may be like the mourners and weepers. Sometimes, when a brother or sister is sick, or going through a hard time, we may, with a good heart, try to help by giving advice, or even wanting to visit the person, or give gifts that we think will help him or her. But we do not pray. Many saints will, with a good heart, show concern for those who are struggling or suffering, but will not attend the corporate prayers to pray for the needs of the saints, which are the needs of the church. They hardly attend the prayer gathering, or if they attend, they hardly open their mouth to offer prayers, even for ten seconds, but they are often the first ones to offer advice with a good heart. We may be just like that. Even if we attend the prayer gathering, do we trust in the Lord and meet the Lord through our prayers, or do we trust in what we can do or how we can help? How many minutes do we pray? We may say we believe in the Lord by our weeping and mourning, but such weeping and mourning may quickly turn to laughter because we lack the prayers.

✿ Luke 8:55 And her spirit returned, and she got up at once.

Jesus had the power to call her spirit back. Jesus connects us by spirit. It seems that if her spirit left her body, her body was dead. The spirit is most important to us. I once heard a sharing from a brother that if a person's spirit is not healthy, his soul and his body will not be well. This sharing really opened a door for me.

I really need to practice exercising my spirit everyday and practice exercising my spirit with the saints, which is a foundation for the healthy Christian life. If we have a strong spirit, our body will be well. On the other hand, we need to exercise our body as well.

Based on the above two slides, I need to practice exercising my spirit and my faith everyday through the small things or big decisions.

