

Desperate For Jesus

The need that this world has is Jesus.

Everyone is desperate for the work of the Holy Spirit in his or her lives.

Psalm 46. 'As the deer pants for streams of living water so my soul longs after God.'

We are being bombarded each and every day with temptations and struggles and opposition to finding Jesus.

We need Jesus more than ever to intervene and bring about change in us and in those around us.

Being desperate before God is necessary and this morning we are looking at two people who surrendered all to seek the face of Jesus.

Scripture Luke 8:40-41

⁴⁰ Now when Jesus returned, a crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. ⁴¹ Then a man named Jairus, a synagogue leader, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come to his house ⁴² because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying.

Jarius moved from a place of pride and arrogance into a place of humility and surrender to seek Jesus.

He sought out a move of God on behalf of his daughter who was sick.

Jarius faced great opposition within his job, his friends, and his congregation.

When we acknowledge Christ is our lives, it will require us to surrender everything to his loving touch

Jarius came to salvation when he came before Jesus.

He had to acknowledge whom Jesus was to believe he could help.

Now being saved doesn't save us from hardship, but means that Jesus will walk through it with us.

Sometimes things will actually get harder before they get better.

Luke 8:49

⁴⁹ While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," he said. "Don't bother the teacher anymore."

Very often when we are on the right path we will receive opposition

Sometimes our very friends and family will bring bad reports and discouragement to us making us feel that we are on the wrong path.

Jarius had to overcome fear and a bad report. He did this by listening to what Jesus spoke to him. It was not blind faith but focused faith.

When we are in a desperate situation, we need to remove the voices of doubt and fear and focus on what God is saying.

We need to get alone with Jesus and listen to his voice in the midst of the crowd of noise.

God speaks to his children and will never lead them astray! You and I can count on that!

Jesus answered his desperate plea for his daughter and he will hear ours for another as well.

Who is it that we know is desperate for a touch from Jesus today?

2. Being desperate for our own needs.

We should be lifting up others before Jesus each and every day, but we should also trust in him to meet our needs as well.

Sometimes it is easier for us to believe for others than it is to believe for ourselves.

If that is you today, you need to stop doing that.

You do not have to be ashamed to ask your heavenly father for what you need.

Hebrews 11:6

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

The Woman in our story was subject to bleeding for 12 years.

Matt 9: 18-20

²⁰ Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. ²¹ She said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.”

Being subject to something means you are under its authority and rule.

She was being ruled by this condition and had lost everything to it.

She was unclean, so she could not enter the temple or stay around others; she had to stay outside the city.

Her being there in the crowd placed her at risk of harm by the religious authority.

She saw Jesus and she saw her opportunity for freedom and reached out saying, if only I can touch his cloak, if only I can touch Jesus, I will be healed.

How many of us are subject to something other than God?

One of the most deadly and evil taskmasters I have seen is a spirit of rejection.

It lingers long after a person is saved and causes much harm and damage to them and holds them back from knowing true freedom.

This injury comes to everyone at one point or another and separates them from having a true intimate relationship with God and with others.

It causes them to fear exposing them selves, to be shallow with their Christianity and their relationships.

It makes them look for the weaknesses and shortcomings of others so they can push them away.

It makes them recoil any time some one speaks to them about sin or what may be holding them back from God.

Rejection is a hard taskmaster, but God can change that.

This woman reached out to the only one who could heal her, Jesus, and was forever changed.

Now it could have ended there, but Jesus wanted her to be truly free of rejection as well her physical bondage and he turned and spoke out, "Who touched me?"

Why? Did he not know already?

Luke 8:45-47

⁴⁵ **"Who touched me?" Jesus asked.**

When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you."

⁴⁶ **But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me."**

⁴⁷ **Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed.** ⁴⁸ **Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."**

He did this so that she could reveal herself and share her testimony and receive acceptance and love from Jesus himself.

He wanted her to look him in the eye and know him beyond physical healing, and know him as the lover of her soul.

What is more freeing, physical healing or emotional healing that touches the center of your being?

Coming before the Lord is easy, but exposing yourself is hard to do even in the presence of loved ones.

It has been my experience that nothing worth having comes easy.

Whether we are here today to hear a good word, or to feel good in the presence of God we all need a touch from God in ways we might not yet know.

Are you struggling with rejection from years past? Are you in need of physical healing today?

Is there a person on whose behalf, you are ready to be desperate for so they can be set free?