

Mark 5:24-34 – Benefits of Christ - All-Knowing

Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ: Studying the attributes of God is not boring at all. When you study the attributes of God, you will find there are many practical application and benefits – benefits that help you to serve the Lord better.

Today you will see one of these attributes of Jesus, namely, his omniscience (all-knowing), and how beneficial this attribute was for this poor suffering sister.

Our headings are:

The Woman's Helplessness

The Woman's Hope

The Woman's Healing

Our goals are: Based on the fact that your loving Savior knows your troubles, he will help you through your afflictions. And surely you will then be moved to better worship and work for him.

The Woman's Helplessness

24 So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and **thronged Him**. 25 Now a certain woman had a **flow of blood for twelve years**, 26 and had suffered many things from many **physicians**. She had **spent all that she had** and was no better, but rather **grew worse**.

1. It was normal for a large multitude to follow Jesus and to throng him. The word "throng" literally means to press on every side...to crush...One in the multitude was a sick woman with a bleeding disorder for 12 years.

2. This woman's life was ebbing away before her. (Eusebius says her name was Veronica.)

She was weak. She would be low on iron... She would be tired...and susceptible to many diseases.

She was miserable. The constant discomfort would make her irritable. Imagine the pressures on her family! They also had to watch her suffer for such a long time.

She was also ceremonially unclean, meaning that she could not perform many of the Old Testament ceremonies. A woman with a bleeding issue was not permitted to go and make sacrifices.

3. She was unable to get help for her condition. Her physicians could not help her...and she tried many of them. One can imagine the horrible medicines she had to take. A historically famous medicine for this type of problem was: Gum of Alexandria, alum, saffron, Persian onions, and cummin, put into wine and drank...and if that didn't work there were many other concoctions...Another remedy was to dig 7 holes in the ground, burn some herbs in them, and sit over the herbs in each hole. Imagine the work, the inconvenience, the lack of privacy... And even with all these medicines and medical procedures, **she got worse.**

4. As a consequence on spending all her money on doctors and medicines, she and her family became poorer.

5. A weaker person would have wished for death, or to be euthanized, or might have even contemplated suicide. Life seemed helpless for this poor woman.

6. Lessons:

a. It is the Lord's plan that sometimes you have to endure serious struggles in life – sickness, financial struggles, or family challenges. Many of you have faced these challenges recently. **He knows everything you go through.**

b. Never try to escape or take the easy way out. Learn to ask for help when you have trials.

c. This woman is a picture of every man's spiritual condition. Every man has a spiritually unclean heart...and he can do nothing to help his condition...even if he spends all that he has. He cannot save his life. Many have tried to buy their spiritual health...but have always failed... and will always fail. God is not fooled by charity. God's justice demands blood...the blood of Christ...to redeem the helpless. Nothing else would do.

The Woman's Hope

27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.

1. This woman, in all her affliction, had heard of hope in Jesus Christ, how he saved and how he healed. She gained faith... faith in Jesus. That faith came by hearing Christ's Words...words that someone told her...

28 For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."

2. Because of her faith, this woman knew that if she could just touch Jesus she would be well. So even in her physical weakness, this woman fought the large crowd to come to Jesus. **Faith forced her forward.** She was spiritually rich. Christ made her rich through the words that she had heard. (This was not superstition-as reaching for a peace of holy cloth-but strong faith in Christ.) But be careful not to think that if you have faith today that God will heal you. You have to exercise your faith in things that are available. Miracles were specifically for that time. Miracles were only common 3 times in the Bible, during the times of Moses, Elijah, and Jesus. **Greater things are reachable by faith.**

3. Lessons:

a. The Lord knows your needs, Christian brother, and he gives you faith so that you can reach out to him. Faith is what you need to be justified...declared righteous by God. Faith is what you need to be sanctified.

b. There were many there with Jesus, but they were curious observers who lacked the faith to reach out to Jesus and receive his blessing. If you are not growing as a Christian, you need greater faith. God to God's Word.

c. You need to tell others who are in this helpless condition about Jesus. They might have tried everything... spent everything they had...and wasted a lot of time... **but they have not found healing for their souls.** Tell them that Jesus saves. Tell them to reach out by faith, knowing that the Lord will do what they ask.

The Woman's Healing

29 Immediately the **fountain of her blood** was dried up, and **she felt in her body** that she was healed of the affliction.

1. After touching Jesus, the woman was instantly made well. What does "fountain of her blood" mean? The Jews called the womb a fountain because of menstrual blood. This dear woman knew that her bleeding had stopped and the pains were gone...After 12 years of constant pain and suffering.

30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

2. Knowing he had healed her, Jesus wanted her to confess before the people so the crowd would know of his knowledge.

It is his knowledge that made healing possible – he knew of her need, and he knew of her faith. This is the omniscience of Christ. So he asked: Who touched me (by faith)? Jesus knew. **He knew she had to speak!** A Christian is never silent! There are no secret Christians. (See how this story is about Christ?)

31 But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"

3. Not knowledgeable enough of the knowledge of Christ, his disciples protested. "There are people pressing (good KJV word) you, and you want to know who touched you?" The word "thronging" suggests stifling...or choking... They wanted to say: "Lord, the proper question is: Who did not touch you?"

32 And He looked around to see her who had done this thing.

4. Jesus completely ignored their question and looked at the woman who touched him by faith. He knew for whom he was looking...for he knew all things.

33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.

5. The woman became afraid and trembled...Fear and trembling was mixed with her faith. But why was she afraid and trembling? As part of the ceremonial law, which was being fulfilled, a woman with bleeding was not permitted to be in contact with the public.

Leviticus 15:25 'If a woman has a discharge of blood for many days, other than at the time of her customary impurity, or if it runs beyond her usual time of impurity, all the days of her unclean discharge shall be as the days of her customary impurity. She shall be unclean.

The person that that woman touched would become ceremonially unclean. Maybe she thought Jesus might reverse the healing, or people might be angry with her for stopping Jesus from healing Jairus' daughter.

But she should not have been afraid. She should have given him her uncleanness, and he would give her his righteousness. She should be triumphing (rejoicing) in his glorious favor...not trembling from fear. The pictures of impurity were passing. Christ came to remove the things symbolized by impurity – sin. And there was no need to be afraid to be close to him.

Then notice how this woman is not ashamed to tell of her most private matter before the world. This plague had destroyed her...and she wanted the world to know. She showed her faith. **This is**

an example of Christian evangelism of the best kind. She confirmed the Christ was God – the omniscient one.

34 And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

6. This is why Jesus does not attack or insult her for appearing before him in an unclean state. And he does not speak harshly to her because fear was mixed with her faith...But he is gentle. Jesus even calls her daughter...showing great affection to this woman.

7. And he pronounces future peace on the woman in the future. “Well” here means healthy. “Go in peace” means “live in peace.”

8. Jesus then tells her that her faith made her well. Does this mean that faith literally made her well? No, it was the object of her faith – Jesus Christ – that made her well. Faith has no power of itself. Faith was the tool that Christ used. Only Christ has power.

9. Lessons:

a. Through faith this sister sent her message to the Lord and in love he returned the answer.” Jesus removed her plague and set her free. And she knew it. **So too you – when you are a Christian you will know it. You will feel the weight of sin lifted.**

b. Never be ashamed to honor Christ and announce his help through your **transition from an unbelieving state to a believing** state or **through all of life’s troubles** that he brings you through.

c. If you are not a Christian, you need to reach out to the Lord by faith and receive new life so the plague of sin and death can be removed.

Conclusion

This is an astounding story of a woman who had great faith in Jesus Christ and was healed – soul and then body. But **this story is more astounding than that.** It is more astounding because it deals with the omniscience of Jesus Christ. Our Lord knows all things. He is the God of heaven and earth...and he knew the pain, agony and faith of this woman. His knowledge caused him to heal!

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Your Lord knows all things about you too. He knows when you have pains in your head and in your heart. He knows when you are discouraged. He knows when you struggle to worship. He knows the spiritual frustrations you feel. He knows your worry about the future. He knows your physical pains. He knows every secret sin with which you wrestle.

2. Your Lord not only knows all things about you, but he also cares for you. You became his child because Jesus died on the cross for your sins. So you can be sure that he cares for your, body and soul. He said that he will never leave you nor forsake you.

3. The implications of Christ’s knowledge and his care for you are comforting. You can go to sleep at night with confidence. You can raise your children without fear. You can look to the future with hope. He may not take away your sickness and trials right away as he did for this woman – it might be with you for 12 more years-but his arms are surely around you always and he will give you whatever you need to do the work he has called you to do. And it will always come at the right time.

Finally, if you are not a Christian, remember, Jesus knows all things. He knows you are rebellious and you are fighting against him. He even knows when you think or when you say evil. So unless you repent, he will destroy you. But if you humble yourself before him and reach for him, he will help you. If you come to him as this woman did and say: “Lord I want to be made well, I’ve been sick all my life,” he will make you well. Jesus says that “whoever comes to me I will never throw out.” Come today.