

new DESPERATION

“And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.” (Luke 8:43-44)

“...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. Then he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.” (Luke 8:47-48)

The story of this woman has been told countless times, and rightfully so. She was desperate for healing, she had done everything that was possible in the natural but nothing worked. However, she heard about a man who was doing the miraculous; the blind seeing, the lame walking, the possessed being delivered and the dead coming back to life. Maybe He could help her.

She pushed her way through a massive crowd. She was desperate. She wasn't even supposed to be there because the law called her unclean, so being in public was breaking the rules. She was desperate.

She touched the hem of His garment thinking it could be done unnoticed. She was desperate.

Desperation motivates people to do things that are out of the norm. Desperation can stem from hopelessness, fear, and great need. This woman was at the end of herself, her resources, her patience, her hope and she made a decision because there was nothing else left. Her pursuit of Jesus was the only decision that led to her healing, her faith and desperation moved Jesus in such a way her story has been told for thousands of years.

Often times we will try everything before we seek Jesus. He has given us wisdom and the ability to solve problems but more often than not Jesus becomes our last option we will pursue. He is calling each of us to a deeper relationship with Him, one that requires a level of desperation. A daily reminder that without Jesus, His presence and guidance, we are nothing. We need to fix our eyes on Him, leaning on Him to show us how to love those around us, how to forgive, how to

respond to those who have hurt us, how to lead our families, how to interact with co workers, how to serve, how to give. We have become a culture that is so independent we have lost the art form of desperation. We have believed that we have graduated from needing Jesus in every aspect of our lives.

Desperation will bring breakthrough, it will bring creative ideas and new strategies, it will cause us to innovate and do things the world has never seen, it will change the course of generations, it will restore broken marriages, it will break addictions, and it will heal brokenness. As we continue to pray and fast may we begin to practice a new desperation for Jesus.

PRAYER

FATHER, I ASK FOR A NEW DESPERATION FOR THE PRESENCE OF JESUS. MAY I HUNGER AND THIRST FOR HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS. LIKE THE WOMAN WHO WAS HEALED, I ASK THAT YOU WOULD TOUCH THE BROKEN UNHEALED PLACES IN ME. REMIND ME THAT WHAT I DO ABSENT OF YOUR PRESENCE ISN'T WORTH DOING. MAY I USE THE GIFTS AND TALENTS YOU HAVE PLACED INSIDE OF ME FOR YOUR GLORY. HELP ME TO SEE THE PLACES IN MY LIFE I HAVE TRIED TO FIX ON MY OWN AND I GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO TOUCH THOSE AREAS. LORD I AM DESPERATE FOR YOU, I DON'T WANT TO LIVE THIS LIFE WITHOUT YOU. CONTINUE TO TEACH ME, LEAD ME AND GUIDE ME. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.