

Summary

This sermon explores two interconnected healing miracles found in Matthew 9:18-26 and Mark 5:21-43: the raising of Jairus's daughter and the healing of a woman who had been bleeding for 12 years. The pastor emphasizes that these are not two separate stories but one continuous event, and that the details found across both Gospel accounts reveal deeper truths about faith, desperation, and the power of Christ. Key themes include the courage it takes to break social customs in pursuit of God's healing, the importance of coming humbly before Christ with complete honesty, and the reality that Jesus notices every act of genuine faith. The sermon also challenges believers to stop treating God as a spare tire, only calling on Him in moments of crisis and then setting Him aside when life improves. Using the examples of Jairus (a synagogue ruler who had to humble himself before someone his peers despised) and the unnamed woman (who risked her life just to touch the hem of Jesus's garment), the pastor calls the congregation to forge their faith, stay on mission, and boldly proclaim what God is doing in their lives. The message closes with a reminder from Matthew 9:12-13 that Jesus came not for the righteous but for sinners, and that He desires mercy, not sacrifice.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with open hearts and willing spirits. As we gather together, we ask that You quiet the noise of our daily lives and help us to truly hear what You want to speak to each of us. Give us eyes to see the details of Your Word and ears to receive the truth You have placed within it. Lord, we do not want to leave this time the same way we came in. Move in our hearts, challenge our thinking, and draw us closer to You. In Jesus's name, amen.

Ice Breaker

What is one small but meaningful detail about a person, place, or memory that most people overlook but that stands out to you?

Key Verses

- Matthew 9:18-26
- Mark 5:21-43

- Matthew 9:12-13

Questions

- The pastor pointed out that Jairus was a ruler of a synagogue, a group that largely opposed Jesus, yet He still came and fell at Jesus's feet. What does it take for a person to set aside pride or peer pressure to ask for help from God?
- The woman who had been bleeding for 12 years risked her life just to touch the hem of Jesus's garment. What does her level of desperation and faith challenge you to consider about your own approach to God?
- The pastor said, 'It is going to cost you something.' What are some customs, fears, or social pressures in today's world that keep people from openly sharing what God has done in their lives?
- Jesus stopped in the middle of a crowd and asked, 'Who touched my clothes?' even though many people were pressing against Him. What does this moment tell you about how personally and attentively God responds to genuine faith?
- The pastor used the image of a spare tire to describe how some people treat God. Have you ever found yourself in that pattern? What does it look like to give God the steering wheel instead?
- When Jesus arrived at the ruler's house, He put the mockers outside before performing the miracle. What does this tell us about the environment we cultivate around our faith, and who we allow to speak into our lives during difficult seasons?
- The pastor mentioned that sometimes God says no to healing, and that the struggle itself may be what keeps drawing us back to Him. How do you personally wrestle with unanswered prayers, and what has that taught you about your relationship with God?
- Matthew 9:13 says Jesus came to call sinners, not the righteous. How does understanding that Jesus pursues broken and imperfect people change the way you see yourself and the way you reach out to others around you?

Life Application

This week, identify one area of your life where you have been holding back from fully trusting God, whether it is a health struggle, a broken relationship, a fear, or a habit. Like the woman who pressed through the crowd, take one intentional step of faith toward Jesus in that area. This could mean praying with complete honesty, reaching out to someone who needs to hear what God has done for you, or simply choosing to stop treating God as a last resort. Write down what that step is and share it with someone in your group so they can pray with you and hold you accountable.

Key Takeaways

- The details of Scripture matter. Reading the same story across multiple Gospel accounts reveals deeper truths that a surface-level reading will miss, and every word in the Bible is placed there with purpose.
- Genuine faith requires courage. Both Jairus and the bleeding woman had to break social customs and risk personal consequences to reach Jesus, and following Christ today will sometimes require the same boldness.
- Jesus is personally attentive to every act of faith. In the middle of a pressing crowd, He noticed one woman's touch because it came from a heart that truly believed He could heal her.
- God is not a spare tire. He calls us to a continuous, dependent relationship with Him, not a transactional one where we only seek Him in moments of crisis and walk away once the problem is resolved.
- Jesus came for sinners, not the self-sufficient. Humility and honesty before God are the starting points for experiencing His mercy and healing in our lives.

Ending Prayer

Lord, thank You for the reminder today that You see us, You know us, and You are moved by even the smallest act of genuine faith. Forgive us for the times we have treated You as a last resort rather than our first response. Help each person in this group to press through whatever crowd of fear, doubt, or shame stands between them and Your healing. Give us the courage of the woman who reached out, the humility of the ruler who fell at Your feet, and the focus of Jesus who stayed on mission no matter what surrounded Him. May we leave here not just informed but transformed, and may our lives be a testimony of what You can do when Your people choose to believe. In the name of Jesus, amen.