

Reedy Fork Baptist Church

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

BIBLE STUDY

Theme: "Reaching For Jesus in Faith Even in Hardest Moments "

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 9:18-26 NIV

¹⁸ While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live."

¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

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."

²² Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment.

²³ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes,

²⁴ he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him.

²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.

²⁶ News of this spread through all that region.

I. Key Words:

- Faith
- Healing

II. People, Places, & Times:

- Leader of the Synagogue
- Jesus
- Disciples

III. Background:

Matthew 9:18-26 intertwines the healing of a bleeding woman and the resurrection of a synagogue leader's daughter. Together, these miracles reveal Jesus' absolute authority over sickness, social isolation, and death itself, while highlighting that faith is the catalyst for receiving His restorative mercy.

IV. In Depth:

1. Lesson Emphasis: 1. The Desperate Need and the Interrupted Journey

A. The Context (v. 18-19):

A synagogue leader (Jairus) approaches Jesus, kneeling in humility. Unlike the skeptical Pharisees, he recognizes Jesus' power and begs Him to raise his recently deceased daughter. Jesus immediately agrees and follows him, demonstrating His approachability and willingness to help the grieving.

B. The Interruption (v. 20-22):

On the way, a woman who has suffered from chronic bleeding for 12 years approaches Jesus from behind. Culturally, her condition made her "ceremonially unclean"—meaning she was marginalized, ostracized from her community, and forbidden from religious gatherings. Desperate, she believes that just touching the fringe of His cloak will heal her.

2. Lesson Emphasis: 2. The Healing of the Woman (v. 22)

A. The Action:

The moment she touches His garment, she is healed instantly. Jesus stops and turns. He calls her "Daughter," restoring not just her physical health but her social and spiritual identity by bringing her back into the community.

B. The Key Takeaway:

Jesus tells her, "Your faith has made you well". Her healing was not a magical superstition; it was the result of a personal, trusting connection with the Savior.

3. Lesson Emphasis #3: The Authority over Death (v. 23-26)

A. The Scene at the House:

Jesus and His disciples arrive at the synagogue leader's house, which is filled with loud mourners and flute players, a common custom in the ancient Near East. Jesus tells them the girl is not dead but sleeping, prompting them to laugh at Him.

B. The Miracle:

Jesus clears the crowd. He steps into the room, takes the young girl by the hand, and she immediately gets up.

V. Make It Happen

- What is the difference between simply being near Jesus and reaching out to Him in faith?
- Why do you think Jesus insisted on making her come forward and reveal herself?
- Jesus was on a mission to save a dying girl, yet He stopped to care for the bleeding woman. How does this encourage you when you feel like your prayers are being delayed by God?

VI. Follow the Spirit:

What will you do as a result of this lesson?

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