

Weekly Devotional from July 6

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on the themes from the sermon:

Day 1: Desperate for Jesus

Reading: Luke 8:40-48

Devotional: In today's passage, we see two individuals desperate for Jesus' touch - Jairus and the woman with the issue of blood. Their desperation drove them to seek Jesus regardless of social norms or personal pride. How often do we approach Jesus with this level of urgency and need? Reflect on areas in your life where you may have become self-reliant or complacent. Ask God to renew in you a desperate hunger for His presence and power. Remember, it's not wrong to be desperate for Jesus - it's right and necessary for our spiritual growth.

Day 2: Faith that Touches Jesus

Reading: Mark 5:25-34

Devotional: The woman with the issue of blood believed that just touching Jesus' garment would heal her. Her faith was so strong that it caught Jesus' attention in a pressing crowd. Today, consider the quality of your faith. Is it strong enough to reach out and "touch" Jesus amid life's distractions? Faith is more than passive belief; it's an active reaching out to Jesus, trusting in His power and love. Ask God to strengthen your faith so that you can push through obstacles and experience His transformative touch in your life.

Day 3: Jesus' Tenderness in Our Pain

Reading: Luke 8:49-56

Devotional: Even when faced with death and mourning, Jesus responds with gentleness and compassion. He speaks tenderly to Jairus, encouraging him to believe despite the devastating news. Jesus' heart of compassion is evident in how He treats those in pain. Reflect on times when you've experienced God's tenderness in your suffering. How can you mirror this tenderness to others who are hurting? Ask God to help you see others through His compassionate eyes and to be a vessel of His tender love to those around you.

Day 4: Overcoming Fear with Faith

Reading: Mark 4:35-41

Devotional: When the disciples were terrified in the storm, Jesus asked, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" Fear and faith often wrestle in our hearts. Like the disciples, we may find ourselves panicking in life's storms, forgetting the power of the One who is with us. Today, identify areas where fear might be overshadowing your faith. Bring these fears to Jesus, asking Him to increase your trust in His presence and power. Remember, faith doesn't mean the absence of fear, but the courage to trust God in spite of it.

Day 5: Restored to Community

Reading: Luke 17:11-19

Devotional: Both the woman with the issue of blood and Jairus' daughter were restored not just to health, but to community. Sin, shame, and suffering often isolate us, but Jesus' work in our lives is meant to bring us back into relationship - with God and others. Consider areas in your life where you might be isolating yourself due to shame, fear, or pain. How can you take a step towards vulnerability and connection with others in your faith community? Ask God for the courage to be known and to allow others to support you in your journey of faith.