

## **HOSPITAL FOR SINNERS**

### **“The Doctor will see you now!”**

Our church motto is not simply a cute statement, but rather a commitment to what we want our fellowship of believers to feel when they enter into our congregation. Too many people believe that church is for the righteous and those who are high and refined, but Jesus came for the sinners, not for the healthy. The church should be a place where sinners and hurting people enter to receive healing and comfort. Jesus Christ is the Great Physician and wants to take our hurts and problems and heal us from the despair of the world. The only thing He requires of us is belief.

If you have ever seen our Easter presentation, “The Promise,” have you ever really grasped the “Healing Scene”? The blind man receives his sight, the woman caught in adultery receives her pardon, and the father receives his joy back with the raising of his dead daughter. Do you realize that we still serve the same God who performed those miracles then? Beth Moore, in her study Believing God, says that “many of us believe in God, but do we believe God?” Our God is the same God of the Old and New Testaments. If He could perform miracles then, don’t you think that He can still perform them today? No, maybe we won’t see a girl raised from the dead or a blind man that can see, but miracles and God’s healing happens all around us. The woman who was ridden with cancer goes back and the cancer is gone, MIRACLE. The father who is burdened for his son on drugs finds out that his son goes into rehab, MIRACLE. A family member that has been laid off finds a job, MIRACLE. A sinner finds out that the Son of God gave His life for his or her redemption, MIRACLE!

Miracles are all around us. We just don’t claim them as miracles any more. We must realize that the God of healing in the Bible is still the God of today. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Our God can heal us of hurt, disappointment, and especially, our sins, if we will just allow Him to. The key to healing is faith, and these people in the New Testament had just what it took to get the job done.

### **THE GREAT PHYSICIAN**

#### **THE DISTRESS OF A DAD**

The man is known as one of the leaders and Mark and Luke say that he was a leader of the synagogue. The leaders had, for the most part, not agreed with Jesus or His teachings. This man humbled himself and with faith knelt down before Jesus asking Him to heal his daughter. And what does the Bible say that Jesus did? “So Jesus and His disciples got up and followed.” Jesus had been teaching His disciples, but He wanted them to realize that He came to heal and give life abundantly. When Jesus came to the man’s house, the professional mourners were there. In those days people were paid to come and mourn the

loss of a loved one. With these people present, we can understand thoroughly that the girl was indeed dead. Jesus went into the house and all He did was take the girl by the hand and she was healed. This man had lost a child, a daughter, and Jesus brought her to life as he had faith to present his problems to Jesus. When we lose a loved one or someone is sick that is close to us, we must present our problems to Jesus and know that He will do what is good for all.

#### THE WANT OF THE WOMAN

This woman had been suffering for twelve years. Can you imagine having a disease for twelve years? With her severe bleeding she was seen as unclean to all around her and was unable to come into large gatherings for fear of making the others unclean. This meant that she had probably not been able to go into the temple for twelve years due to her condition. This disease had probably caused her serious physical difficulties dealing with fatigue, and mental and emotional difficulties dealing with the issues regarding her disease. This woman had the faith to push through the crowd, if only to touch the tip of His garment. She didn't want to cause an issue, but to only touch His robe. According to the gospel of Mark, Jesus felt His power leave Him and turned to ask who touched Him. Jesus told her that her faith had healed her, implying that she would not only be physically healed, but also spiritually healed. When we are faced with a hardship, whether it lasts twelve days, twelve months, or twelve years, if we turn to Jesus, He can heal our broken heart and restore our life.

#### THE BURDEN OF THE BLIND MEN

After Jesus left the home of the father, he encountered two blind men. As Jesus left, the two blind men continued to shout out to Him to have mercy on them. Then Jesus asked them one simple question, "Do you believe that I can do this?" They answered "yes" and immediately they were able to see. They had a burden of being blind and they didn't let Jesus pass them by. They shouted out for His help. When we are burdened and lost in life, we cannot just let Jesus pass us by, but we must shout out for Him to rescue us. The only thing that He asks of us is that we believe. We can't believe half-heartedly or on a part-time basis, but we must believe daily that he can heal us of all our burdens and disappointments.

#### THE DESIRE OF THE DEMON-POSSESSED MAN

The last man that Jesus healed during this passage is the demon-possessed man. This man had been taken over by demons and they had made him mute. He was not able to speak and call out to Jesus, so instead it says that he was brought to Him. He had been unable to communicate to others and thus his relationships had surely suffered. Sometimes in our lives, we let the world take over our thoughts and actions and it seems like we cannot even call out to Jesus. We must come to Jesus and allow Him to take over our lives and change our world.

When we allow Jesus to take over, people will be amazed as they have never seen anything like it before. No one will be able to understand because Jesus' healing cannot be explained. We must realize in our life that Jesus is the same Savior that He was in the Old and New Testaments. He can still heal, and will, if we will believe and have faith.

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