

A DIFFERENT KIND OF TOUCH

INTRODUCTION –

How is it that two people can attend the same meeting yet walk away with one receiving so much, while the other receives so little? Certainly the Sovereignty of God – God touching whom He wishes, when He wishes, and how He wishes – plays a role (1 Cor 12); but do we also play a role? This is what we will examine today.

A SICK WOMAN WITH A DIFFERENT TOUCH

**Mark 5:24-34 - 24A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." 29Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. 30At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" 31"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' " 32But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."*

*THREE THINGS MAKE THIS A “DIFFERENT KIND OF TOUCH”...

1. DESPERATION

Definition: “A state of despair, typically one that results in rash or extreme behavior.”

a. Need

Ps 34:18 – “The Lord is close to the **brokenhearted and saves those who are **crushed in spirit**.”*

Ps 72:13 – “He will take pity on the **weak and the **needy**...”*

Rev 3:17 – “You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ **But you do not realize are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.”*

b. Longing

Ps 42:1 – “As the deer **pants for streams of water, so my soul **pants** for you, O God.”*

Ps 143:6 – “My soul **thirst for You like a parched land...”*

c. Focus

Phil 3:13 – “One thing I do**: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on...”*

2. PERSEVERANCE

James 5:11 - "As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's **perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about.*

Luke 11:9 - "So I say to you, Ask and **keep on asking and it shall be given you; seek and **keep on seeking** and you shall find; knock and **keep on knocking** and the door shall be opened to you."*

*Name some others in the Bible who showed perseverance...

- a. Lame Man → Roof (Mark 2:1-12)
- b. Zacchaeus → Tree (Luke 19:1-4)
- c. Blind Man → Cried Out More (Mark 10:46-52)
- d. Ruler w/ Sick Daughter → Kept Believing Though She Died (Mk 5:21-43)
- e. Jacob → Wrestled For a Blessing All Night (Gen 32:22-26)
- f. Abraham → Baby After 25 Years @ 100 Years Old (Romans 4:18-21)

3. FAITH

Mark 5:34 - "He said to her, "Daughter, **your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."*

***Why is faith so important?**

- a. You Won't Receive Without Faith
**Heb 11:6 - "Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who come to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him."*
 - i. "Your/Their faith has..." (18X's)
 - ii. Jesus miraculous power was limited by lack of faith (Mk 6:5-6)
- b. You Won't Be Desperate or Persevere Without Faith

CONCLUSION: Do you need a "touch"? Does a situation need a "touch"? We're going to open our altars for you to come spend some time seeking Him. *(The Elders are going to go into the room and pray over the Body).