

His Touch...Our Touch

And withersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment; and as many as touched him were made whole.

Mark 6:56

Reading through the gospel accounts, you see the undeniable power of Jesus Christ. The touch of Jesus' hand bridged the vast gap of divinity to touch suffering humanity. Since the fall of man, pain and suffering reign in every corner of the world. As our Lord embarked on his earthly ministry, he quickly crossed paths with a corrupted humanity. In Matthew 8, a leper, who was an outcast of society, has his terrible disease cleansed when he is touched by Jesus. In the same chapter it is recorded that Peter's mother-in-law's fever subsides when the Lord touches her hand. In Mark 8, Jesus places His hands on a blind man's eyes, and restored him to having clear vision. Then there were the times when our Lord doesn't even use His hands in an act of healing, but rather speaks and touches people with the power of His word. Jairus' daughter, blind Bartimaeus, the ten lepers, and the Syrophenician woman, all received the healing touch from His powerful word.

Spiritually speaking, we not only need Jesus to touch us, but we also need to be able to touch him. Our touch, whether by hand or by words, needs to be an extension of the faith that lies within. Throughout Jesus' ministry we see individuals with varying needs reach out by faith to Him with the hope and expectation of finding relief. In Matthew 9, before the woman with the issue of blood received a healing word from the Lord, she first positioned herself to touch Jesus' garment. In Luke 17, the ten lepers, who were forbidden to be physically close to people, touched the Lord by calling from afar pleading for His mercy, and in return received healing from a distance.

If we are true believers, we have been touched by God, and He will continue to touch us throughout our lives. There will be many times when His Spirit will touch our hearts by His word. We reach out to touch Him when we open our ears to hear His word, or reach out to open and read His Book. Everyday is an opportunity to reach out and touch the Lord, and when we do so by faith, we will receive His tender touch.

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