



THE WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD - *suffering*

Connect Study 26

The woman with the issue of blood - Suffering

'He said to her, Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.' (Mark 5:34 NIV)

We know nothing about this woman apart from the account of her healing. Her sickness and the bleeding that she suffered made her ritually unclean and isolated her from society. However Jesus was aware of her and looked for her in the crowd.

Discuss the following lessons that we can learn from this woman:

- **She was tenacious**

Read Luke 8:40-48. Discuss what it would have taken for this woman to disregard religious taboos and push through the crowd. How quickly do you give up when things do not go the way you hoped?

- **She was persistent**

Read Mark 5:25, 26 and Matthew 7:7-11. This woman had been seeking a cure from doctors for many years but she did not give up hope. Is there a situation that you are seeking an answer for at the moment? Where have you been looking?

- **She was full of faith**

Read Mark 5:27,28. What do we learn about the woman's faith? What step of faith do you need to take?



- **She was articulate**

Read Luke 8:47 and Acts 1:8. She witnessed to what she had experienced. Sometimes we do not even realize what God is doing in our life. Reflect on the last several months of your life and share what God has done in and for you. Who can you encourage with your testimony?

- **She worshipped**

Read Mark 5:33,34. What is our response to answered prayer? It is easy to be so excited enjoying the miracle that we forget to thank God.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-10. How do we respond when the answer is not what we hoped for? What can we learn from Paul's response?

Action: We are often focused on our own circumstances, but who could you support either practically or in prayer at the moment?

Prayer: Pray for each other and those around you (e.g. family, friends, work colleagues) that are in need of an answer from God.

Nation Builders

At the start of the year we have the opportunity as Connect Group to set the Faith Goal for what we are believing to give towards Nation Builders. Nation Builders is the Missions Giving of Hillsong Church. Together as Connect Groups we are believing for UNUSUAL things to happen. Take the time during your next meeting to inspire your group to set a Faith Goal for 2015, and let's believe together for our Nation Builders to spark UNUSUAL miracles!

PASTORAL CARE

We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people in your group who may be going through a tough time.

Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500 or Newcastle 02 4927 1888 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

