

MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

November 30, 2020

MATTHEW 9:20 NKJV – (20) And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment. (21) For she said to herself, “If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.”

MARK 2:3-4 NKJV – (3) Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four *men*. (4) And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.

ACTS 3:6 NKJV – (6) Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”

LUKE 23:40 NKJV – (40) But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.”

Many are going through challenging times. Some harder than others. Some ask, “Where is God in the midst of all this?” This morning God shared a response to our challenges. He is very much there. He is very much in the midst of our challenges, but many of us have not made ourselves available to Him.

That leads to the question, what does it mean to “Make yourself available?” I define this as to surrender to God, confess to God, humble yourself, be not pleased in your present status and to recognize we have to listen, obey and apply what He has said (faith). When these actions take place, we recognize God is our source and not a resource.

Now I want to remind you that this is a process, but not a process that we should control it. God is in charge and therefore, we seek Him in our challenges. I want to look at the above scriptures and do an observation to show what we must do to continue to make ourselves available.

In **MATTHEW 9:20**, this woman suffered for a long time, but she finds out Christ is in town and that she must get to Him. To touch His presence. To do her part to get as close to Him as she possibly could and not leave but remain. Jesus already knew what she was doing, but she contributed to doing her part. She made herself available by “Seeking” Him.

In **MARK 2:3-4**, we get a chance to see the duties of an intercessor (Prayer warrior) or simply true brothers and sisters in the faith. The paralytic made himself available by yielding and allowing these four men to take him to Christ. He wasn’t able, but the four men were able. Not only they took him to Christ, but they presented his status before Him. Through faith, he was healed.

In **Acts 3:6**, we discover that the lame man had an agenda of His own but Peter presented him with the truth. He “Listened” and acted on what was said to him. Next thing you know, he is healed.

Last in **LUKE 23:40**, this man was not afraid to speak up of who Christ was! He even went as far as rebuking his partner in crime on the other side of Christ. He also surrendered, confessed and humbled himself. Christ elevated his status to a child of God simply because he made himself available.

I am aware that these are physical healings, but just know all healings are from Christ and we suffer because of sin! It doesn’t matter physically, spiritually or even mentally. Spiritual is what’s most important, unless you are one who makes themselves available for selfish gain. My point in this meditation is, “Make yourself available”.

SCRIPTURE READING

MARK 1:17-18

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

If you want God to change you, make yourself available.