

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

May 21, 2012

Faith At It's Highest

Luke 8:40-48 NKJV- (40) So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him. (41) And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, (42) for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. (43) Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, (44) came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. (45) And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" (46) But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." (47) Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. (48) And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

There was a gentleman that loved pecans and he showed me a tree full of them, but most of the pecans were located extremely high on the tree. About the height of a five story building, the tree also had weak branches (easy to snap in half), but the young man was determined to climb the tree to get as many pecans as he could. I watched him climb and about 30 minutes later he was very high in the tree. I was very concerned because of the condition of the branches, but his faith that all would be well would not stop him from completing the mission. A dangerous task it was, but I saw faith at its highest. Why do I say highest? I am not so much referring to height, but the determination, faith and eagerness.

It is the same in the scenario above. A woman and man came to Jesus for healing, assistance or for answers. It wasn't easy to get to Him, but they refuse to give up because they knew He was just a touch away. What is it that you needs to be healed in your life? What is it that you need to get on track? He is not physically here right now that you can touch Him, but you can touch Him with your heart. How? Through simple communication called prayer. And then demonstrating faith by believing and trusting He will do what He said and all will be well.

The disciples were to learn from this "that they should always pray and not give up" (18:1). "Ask and it will be given to you," Jesus is saying to His disciples. "Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened" (11:9-10). This week we're looking at the story of a determined woman whose pushy faith in Jesus brought her the salvation she sought. Jesus is seeking to produce in you and me the kind of faith that motivated the hemorrhaging woman to touch the hem of His garment. But if we aren't quite there yet, He is entirely willing to prop up and encourage our faith until it can grow some more. Faith is often expressed in us at that raw, growing edge of life that is acquainted with fear but not overcome by it.

Jesus loves you and is fully aware of the vulnerability of your faith. But He is encouraging you to take courage, put your fears aside, and "go for it. Remember **PHILIPPIANS 4:13 NKJV** – (13) I can do all things through Christ who strengthens Me.

SCRIPTURE READING – DEUTERONOMY 31:8

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – Name one time when Jesus quit on you.



May 1, 2012