

The Life of Faith

"Faith brings a certainty to my life."

Scripture Reading: Mark 5:21-34

- **Points to Ponder:**

- Faith is believing the Word of God is absolute truth.
- Faith is acting like the Word of God is true.
- Faith isn't pouting, whining, or begging God. Faith is believing God above circumstance.
- Faith is lining your mouth and your actions up with your believing.

3 Characteristics of Faith

1. **She HEARD** that Jesus was coming through town. (Mark 5:27)

- Faith comes to you **by hearing the Word of God.** (Romans 10:17)

- The Word is like a seed. (Mark 1:1-20; 1 Peter 1:22-25)
- It is planted.
- It is watered.
- It takes root.
- It grows.
- Her faith grew when she heard.
- You have to get the Word from the Bible to your heart, let it take root and grow.
- For faith to rise up, you have to hear more than the thoughts running through your head. You have to 'hear' what God's Word says about your situation.

Why is it often a struggle to hear the Word of God above the thoughts in our head?

What do you think the woman heard that spurred her faith to 'action'?

Why do you think the Word of God is likened to a seed?

How is a seed a good object lesson for faith?

2. **She SAID** what she believed. (Mark 5:28)

- Faith is made **certain by confession.** (Romans 10:8-10)
- Your mouth is connected to your faith. (Mark 11:22-24)
- Your mouth directs the whole course of your life. (James 3:1-12)
- Your words identify the condition of your heart. (Matthew 12:33-37; Luke 6:45)

Why do you think the mouth is a good mirror for faith in the heart?

Why do you think words are so important?

If words have that kind of power, do you believe your words could destroy your faith?

Explain.

Have you ever been believing for something to happen, but your mouth spoke like it was never going to happen? Explain.

3. She **ACTED ON** what she believed. (Mark 5:27-34)

- She pressed through the crowds and made **NO EXCUSE**
- She didn't care that others were touching Jesus and receiving nothing. Her faith wasn't focused on others.
- She had an expectation. Faith is living with your fingers crossed. Faith is expectation.
- Her faith was linked to a certain belief "I will be made well." She didn't even think to use the phrase: "Maybe I will get it." or "I hope so." She was **CERTAIN**.
- Notice Jesus' words, "Daughter your faith has healed you." This makes miracles a possibility to all because we all can have faith.

Have you ever let excuses rob you of God's promises? Explain
How can another's experience with God impact your own faith?
Why is the phrase, "I sure hope so" not a good indicator of faith?
How can we be so CERTAIN when we decide to trust God?
Do you believe your faith can access miracles?

The Take Home:

Faith is choosing to live in the certainty of God's promises.

Faith makes no excuse.

Faith acts on what is being believed.

Faith is expressed in your mouth.

Faith is always certain.

Faith only comes by hearing the Word of God.

Faith is not swayed by another's bad experiences.