

I'M COMING FROM BEHIND

Bits of Hope from 10-05-08

Rev. Jasmin Sculark

Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:40-48

In the text, the woman had an issue of blood and could not be healed. She came to Jesus from behind. Most of us started out this year with great anticipation because eight is the number of completion. Some of us declared that this year was the year we would be upgraded in certain aspects of our lives. However, at this point in time chaos is happening. People are behind on their mortgages and children are being left behind. Some people are behind in their relationships. Some of us committed to get involved here at church but haven't been coming. We are behind on our finances, on our jobs, in our commitments, etc. We all have to agree that we are all behind in some way or form. You know the embarrassment and emotional torment of being behind. None of us like the burden or the concern of being behind in life. It is not God's plan for us to live behind. We are behind because of the economy. We are behind because of natural disasters. We are behind because life has thrown us a curveball. However, you can love and praise God but still be behind.

Being behind is not your destiny it is just your itinerary. This is as messed up as you will ever be. If you look this good being behind what do you think you will look like when the Lord brings you ahead? You still have clothes on your back and food to eat. That's what messes with the devil. If you have a praise while you are behind, what will you do when God brings you ahead? Whether you are behind academically, emotionally, psychologically, financially, etc., it is just a pit stop. Tell your enemy, "Don't judge me on my itinerary, judge me on my destiny." God is getting ready to upgrade you. You should be able to praise Him now.

You have left something at home today and you need God to leave this house, go to your house, and handle it before you get back home. Jesus still makes house calls. Sometimes your stuff is so messed up you don't bring it to church so you need Jesus to get to your house before you get back home. While Jesus was traveling to Jairus' house to heal his daughter, a crowd was traveling with him. The crowd traveled with Jesus but it never touched him. It was a curious crowd but not a committed crowd. Nothing is worse than being in the presence of Jesus and not touch him. Don't leave here until you touch Jesus. As Jesus was traveling, out of the crowd comes the woman who had an issue that made her behind. Whenever you have an issue and you try to cover the issue, you waste all your energy so that you can't forge ahead.

Understand that the issue is not you. Just because you have a crazy life doesn't mean you are crazy. Just because your finances are low does not mean you are broke. You have to separate yourself from your issue. The woman was dealing with an issue for 12 years. She was trying to cover that issue which left her disconnected and behind. What issue have you been dealing with and trying to cover? If the truth be told, if it wasn't for the grace of God our issues would have killed us a long time ago. Though you are saved, you are not sinless. You are just sinning less. What has your issue cost you? The woman with the issue was isolated. She kept people out and kept herself in. We know how that

is because it is one thing when you know that you have mess, it is another thing when someone else puts it on blast. You have to be careful how you judge people while they are handling their issues.

Whenever you are dealing with issues there is insecurity. You don't feel you are qualified to be up front hence you come from behind. The woman came to Jesus from behind to touch his hem. She didn't think she was worthy to touch Jesus. You have been settling for stuff you shouldn't settle for. You have been downsizing your own life because you don't feel you are worthy for better. You need to stop settling. Go after Him, not after the hem. If God gives you an opportunity to touch Him, don't settle for the hem. The woman settled for the hem. However, Jesus felt the touch and the woman was instantly healed.

When Jesus asked, "Who touched me?," the woman came from behind to tell the testimony of being instantly healed after she touched his hem. Jesus told her that because of her faith she was healed. You can't be healed by Jesus and not show some sign. If God has done anything for you, you ought to show some sign. Give God the praise. You made it through so give Him a still here praise. It is impossible that after you have touched Him and He has touched you, you sit back down. The woman came from behind and left faith forward.

When you are in God's flow, in your season, in your moment, there is nothing anybody can do. They can't mess with you. It may be your time, but it may not be your turn. It may be your turn, but not your time. When it is your time and your turn, there is no devil in hell that can mess with your destiny. Jesus was on his way to Jarius' house to give life while the woman was at home losing life. She got out of her flow to get in God's flow so He dried up her flow and gave her overflow. He delivered her. Your job is to get in God's flow.

If you are going to come from behind, get in God's flow and stay in your lane. The worse thing you can do is try to get in someone else's flow. The woman pushes past the pain to touch Jesus. Jesus was going to heal Jarius' daughter who was twelve years old and the woman was dealing with her issue for twelve years. God wanted to heal the woman but the child as well. God doesn't just want to heal the adult, but also the child in you. Too many of us have split personalities. The woman is over here and the child over there. The childhood has to be healed also. We bring just the woman to church and leave the child at home. That child had issues that were never resolved which affects the adult in you. It is the child in you that wonders if she will ever be loved again or if she was ever of any value. You have to push past the pain of your childhood and the issue you are dealing with now as a woman. Push past your pain, problem, and struggle.

If you are going to come from the behind, you have to get in God's flow, push past the pain, and bust a move. For twelve years, the woman in the text was living on Regret Street. She sang the anthem, "Should've, could've, would've." However, when she heard that Jesus was coming by, she had to bust a move to get to him. Why do you have to bust a move? This is leap year. You are going to leap over some stuff so you have to bust a move. It is time to bust out of tradition and out of low thinking so you can have what you have never had and do something you have never done before. This season is a 'bust a move' season.

Peace

TRANSFORMING YOUR WORLD

www.rayofhope.org

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale, Senior Pastor