

Day 13

“Daughter,” [Jesus] said to her, ‘your faith has made you well. Go in peace’” (Luke 8:48, NLT).

Jesus was on His way to perform a miracle. The synagogue leader Jairus begged Jesus to heal his dying daughter. Jairus was the sort of person the people expected Jesus to help. As a leader of the synagogue, the text infers Jairus was a Jewish man in good standing. And the thought of a child on her deathbed would stir compassion in the coldest of hearts. Jesus did in fact heal Jairus’ daughter, not just of her illness; He raised her from the dead!

In the middle of this miracle is a suffering woman. Is it a coincidence that Jairus’ daughter was 12 years old and the woman had been suffering from constant bleeding for 12 years? The text does not make the connection, but it is interesting. She had been bleeding for the same amount of time the daughter was alive. She “suffered,” indicating that pain accompanied her condition. Not only that, but she would have been considered unclean, unable to participate in social gatherings or temple worship. She lived a lonely life, removed from others. Why did she risk everything to seek out Jesus that day? She was desperate—desperate for God to heal her body, desperate for God to remake her life.

The suffering woman approached Jesus in a posture of humility, grasping His robe as He walked ahead of her. “Immediately, the bleeding stopped” (v. 44). Her touch is a beautiful example of radical, bold faith. *If I can only touch the edge of His robe, I will be healed.* Some translations say that she spent all of her money on doctors. Twelve long years of praying with hope after hope dashed. Yet, she pushed through the crowd, risked ridicule, and reached for His robe in radical, bold faith.

What have you been praying for, or maybe even given up on? Reach out for God in desperation, in radical, bold faith.

Lord, I am desperate for Your power in my situation. I place my faith in You alone to work.