

LoveWell Ministries Bible Study

Receiving God's Love



LOVEWELL MINISTRIES
LOVE. DISCIPLE. REPEAT.

- I. Take some time to invite the Holy Spirit in to guide your thoughts and feelings as you go through this Bible study. Ask the Lord to reveal how much He loves you and any areas of pain in your life that may hinder you from receiving His love. Just sit in this space for a few minutes as God reveals Himself to you.
- II. Despite what life experience may dictate, despite what the world may lead us to believe, and despite the fallen state of situations and circumstances we often find ourselves in, God's Word reveals to us that love is foundational. God is Love, and we were created to be in relationship with God and experience His love. God gives us Himself. He gives us love, and it's our choice whether to receive it. Sometimes, there are things that block us from receiving God's love.

III. Answer the following:

- How has the world calloused you?

- How does pain block you from receiving God's love?

IV. Read **Mark 5:21-34** and answer the following questions:

- What does this story reveal about the pain you carry around with you?

- What does this story reveal about God's love towards you?

- So here's Jesus on His way somewhere, and there's this woman who's been rejected, forgotten about, and discarded by society. She's been calloused by the world. As a matter of fact, she's a sinner, and she's not even supposed to be there. She's got some female issues (consider this her pain), and according to the law of that time, this makes her unclean. Back then when someone was deemed unclean it was assumed they must've broken God's law, and the law says that she should be isolated from society because of her disobedience. The law says she has absolutely no place in this crowd. Her pain most likely causes her to feel rejected... especially by God. She lives with a lot of shame, and therefore hides from God. She creeps up behind Jesus trying not to be recognized, because if somebody recognizes her and calls her out as being that unclean woman with the bleeding problem, she runs the risk of being stoned to death. In an act of utter desperation and brokenness she reaches out and touches His robe. In that moment, she encounters grace. It's this encounter with grace that allows her to

experience the love of God, and faith begins to erupt in her heart. She knows that it's only because of Jesus.

Meanwhile, Jesus is acting a bit peculiar. He wants to find this woman, whoever touched Him. He wants to make sure she realizes He is so incredibly concerned about her pain and wellbeing. He wants her to receive love and know where that love comes from.

The passage tells us that Jesus had to keep on looking around to find who had touched Him, and that the woman was frightened and trembling. She doesn't instantly reveal herself because she's convinced Jesus will be upset. She believes He's going to take her according to the law and reject her just like everybody else has. Even though she's healed, her pain still hinders her from receiving the love of God.

Jesus is intent on revealing His infinite love and acceptance towards her, and for this to happen, she must look at and pay attention to Him.

For you, Jesus isn't trying to get you to pay attention to Him so that He can condemn you. He looks at you and gets you to pay attention to Him so that He can show you how much you are loved and accepted. Through love, He wants to heal your pain and set you free.

V. **Read Revelation 3:20** and answer the following questions:

- What does this tell you about Jesus?

- Jesus stands at the door and knocks. He wants a loving relationship with us. We have to take a step and open the door to Jesus. What might this step look like for you?

- What stops you from opening that door?

VI. **Read Mark 10:14-16** and answer the following question:

- When you think of little kids, what are they like?
