Jesus, our model for healing

God. Medicine and Miracles – Chapter 2



THE JESUS' MODEL OF HEALING

- He healed the whole person
- Body, mind, soul, and spirit
- He made the sick person <u>whole</u>
- He was competent in physical, social, psychological and spiritual care
- None of us are, but the **Body of Christ** can be
- Thus we need a team approach



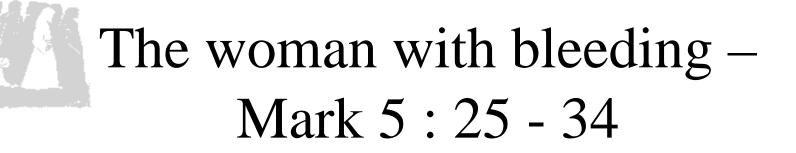
Inductive Bible study

- List carefully the facts in the passage
- Note the context before and after
- Imagine what other details were present but not recorded
- Gather relevant information from elsewhere in Scripture
- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the meaning I John 2: 27



I John 2: 27

- But as for you, Christ has poured out his Spirit on you.
- As long as his spirit remains in you, you do not need anyone to teach you.
- For his spirit teaches you about everything, and what he teaches is true, not false.
- Obey the Spirit's teaching, then, and remain in union with Christ. GNT



- Write out together all of the physical symptoms, social issues, psychological and spiritual problems of this woman
- How did Jesus heal her in all these areas of her life?



HER PHYSICAL PROBLEMS

- 12 years of bleeding
- Anemia due to blood loss
- Weakness
- Probably pain with the bleeding
- Infertility



HER SOCIAL PROBLEMS

- She was Jewish and subject to Jewish laws
- Bleeding causes uncleanness (Leviticus 15:19–30)
- She had been unclean for <u>twelve years</u>
- Divorced
- Abandoned by her family
- No friends
- No money



HER PSYCHO-SPIRITUAL PROBLEMS

- Grief
- Anger
- Fear
- Sense of rejection
- Despair cut off from God
- No hope

SHE WENT TO JESUS BY HERSELF

- This was socially unacceptable
- It was morally wrong

≻She made Jesus unclean

≻She stole his power

- According to Jewish culture, she should have been condemned and probably stoned
- Jesus did not follow Jewish culture



WHY DID JESUS EXPOSE HER?

- He knew she had been physically healed
- We doctors are happy when we have physically healed someone
- Why was Jesus not satisfied?
- Because the woman herself had not yet been healed

HOW DID JESUS HEAL HER?

- He used <u>physical</u> power
- He <u>listened</u> to her story
- He <u>discerned</u> her real problems
- He spoke a <u>healing word</u>
- He <u>affirmed her</u> as a person
- He healed her as a <u>whole person</u>
- <u>We can do the same!</u>



HEALING

- We have many interventions for healing the body
- What heals the mind, soul, and spirit of sick people?

•A WORD



THE HEALING WORD

- Is spoken to the heart
- Is understood by the heart
- Resolves the anguish and pain of the heart
- Jesus knew how to speak such words
- Do we?

WORDS THAT HEAL

- A single word
- An explanation
- A story or parable
- A passage from the Bible
- A word spoken in prayer
- A personal word from the Holy Spirit
- A visual symbol, picture, or scene

A States

What does the Jesus' model require of us?

- A lot of time. We doctors and nurses do not have that time
- Trained people. We have not been trained for this
- We can train lay spiritual caregivers for this
- Discernment that can be learned by training, prayer, and experience
- An understanding of wholeness by the church
- It needs to be 'evidence based' and 'patient directed' <u>It can be</u>



THE SOLUTION

- A team approach
- Pastoral staff plus spiritual caregivers, lay or professional
- Medical consults if possible
- Christ at the center and as the Healer



CONCLUSIONS

- Physical illness affects soul and spirit
- Care for soul and spirit is just as important as care for the body
- We can learn much about care for soul and spirit from God's Word
- Healing of the heart **FAVORS** healing of the body