

062721 PASTOR DAVE'S SERMON: "THE HEALING TOUCH."

>> Pastor Dave: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

LET'S PRAY.

HEAVENLY FATHER, MAY THE WORDS OF MY LIPS AND THE MEDITATIONS OF OUR HEARTS BE PLEASING UNTO THEE, OUR LORD, OUR GOD, OUR ROCK, AND OUR SALVATION.

AMEN.

THANK YOU FOR THAT BEAUTIFUL MUSIC THAT WE'VE HAD ALL MORNING, BUT I'M GOING TO SEE A VICTORY

BECAUSE WE KNOW HOW THE STORY ENDS.

AMEN?

SOME OF US ARE HANGING ON BY A THREAD, RIGHT?

SOME OF US ARE JUST TRYING TO GET ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER,  
BUT WE NEED TO BE REMINDED WE WILL SEE A VICTORY.

WE WILL NOT SUFFER DEFEAT.

WE KNOW HOW THIS STORY ENDS.

JESUS WINS.

WHAT THE DEVIL MEANT FOR BAD, JESUS HANGING ON THE CROSS GOD MEANT FOR GOOD,  
BECAUSE IT WAS THROUGH THE CROSS THAT HE FORGAVE OUR SINS.

AND IT WAS THROUGH THE RESURRECTION THAT HE WENT BACK INTO HEAVEN AND LEFT THE DOOR OPEN FOR ALL OF US TO COME TO HIM IN FAITH.

AND IT KIND OF TIES INTO MY MESSAGE.

I'M JUST NOT OUT HERE RAMBLING WITH ABSOLUTELY NO PURPOSE.

THERE IS A LITTLE PURPOSE TO IT.

AND THE LITTLE PURPOSE IS TO TIE IT INTO WHAT OUR GOSPEL READING IS FOR TODAY.

AND THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

OUR GOSPEL READING BEGINS WITH AS JESUS CAME BACK ACROSS THE LAKE.

OKAY.

REMEMBER LAST WEEK WE TALKED ABOUT JESUS TAKING A MISSION TRIP.

HE HAD LEFT THIS SIDE OF THE LAKE, WHERE HE HAD RETURNED TO, WHERE THERE WERE HUGE CROWDS PRESSING AGAINST HIM SO THAT HE MIGHT EVEN BE CRUSHED,  
AND HE GETS INTO THE BOAT TO TEACH.

AND WHEN EVENING COMES, HE TELLS HIS DISCIPLES, LET'S GO TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAKE.

WELL, WHAT IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAKE?

GENTILES, DEMON-POSSESSED PEOPLE, PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT JEWS.

WHY BOTHER DOING THAT?

WELL, BECAUSE THE GOSPEL IS FOR ONLY THE JEWS?

NO.

THE GOSPEL IS FOR ALL PEOPLE.

NOT JUST FOR US LUTHERANS.

OKAY, METHODISTS, BAPTISTS, MUSLIMS, ATHEISTS,

THE GOSPEL IS FOR EVERYBODY.

THAT IS OUR MISSION TRIP.

AND MARK IS TELLING US WHEN YOU TAKE A MISSION TRIP, WHEN YOU BRING THE GOSPEL TO PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT BELIEVERS, THERE IS GOING TO BE STORMY WATERS.

AND WE REMEMBER HOW THAT STORY WENT.

IT IS A STORM.

AND WHEN HE GETS THERE, THERE IS A MAN THERE THAT IS POSSESSED BY MANY DEMONS.

SO MANY DEMONS, THEY CALL HIM LEGION.

AND HE DRIVES THE DEMONS OUT OF THIS MAN INTO THIS 2,000 PIGS.

THAT'S A BIG CASE OF DEVILED HAM, ISN'T IT?

AND HE RUNS THEM OFF THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF AND THEY ALL DROWN AND THEY ARE ALL DEAD.

THE PEOPLE FLIPPED.

THEY SAID, YOU'RE TOO EXPENSIVE FOR OUR COMMERCE.

GET OUT OF HERE.

SO JESUS GETS BACK IN THE BOAT AND HE GOES BACK.

AND THE CROWD IS STILL THERE, AND THIS IS WHERE WE PICK UP OUR GOSPEL READING FOR TODAY.

IT IS A HUGE CROWD, BUT THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR THAT THIS GOSPEL LESSON IN MARK 5 SINGLES OUT; ONE OF THEM IS A MAN OF STATUS, A MAN OF BEINGS, A MAN OF POSITION.

HIS NAME IS JAIRUS, AND HE IS A SYNAGOGUE RULER.

HE HAS A LOT OF THINGS, PROBABLY WEALTH.

BUT HE'S GOT A PROBLEM: HIS 12-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER IS SICK AND IS ON THE VERY BRINK OF DEATH.

SHE'S HANGING ON BY A THREAD, AND HE IS BESIDE HIMSELF.

NOW, THE SYNAGOGUE -- WHAT IS THEIR OFFICIAL POSITION ABOUT JESUS AS A TEACHER? NOT GOOD, RIGHT?

THE TEMPLE WAS ALWAYS TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO KILL HIM.

THEY CALLED HIM A BLASPHEMER.

THEY SAID HE WAS POSSESSED BY THE DEVIL.

THEY SAID HE WAS OUT OF HIS MIND.

AND YET THIS MAN, JAIRUS, WHO WAS A SYNAGOGUE RULER, WHO REPRESENTED THOSE VIEWS TOWARDS JESUS, RAN OUT OF OPTIONS.

SO WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU RUN OUT OF OPTIONS?

YOU GRAB WHATEVER YOU CAN.

SO HE HEARD ABOUT JESUS, SO HE DECIDES TO DO IT.

YOU MIGHT WONDER, WHY WOULD A MAN WHOSE DAUGHTER IS SICK LEAVE HIS DAUGHTER AND JOURNEY OUT TO FIND JESUS?

WHY NOT FIND SOMEBODY ELSE TO GO?

I'M ENTERING INTO THE REALM OF SPECULATION HERE.

THIS IS WHAT I THINK: I THINK IT IS BECAUSE NOBODY ELSE IN THE SYNAGOGUE WOULD GO.

THEY DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH JESUS.

SO HE HAD TO GO HIMSELF.

SO HE GOES HIMSELF.

IN THIS BIG CROWD, HE FINDS JESUS, HE FALLS DOWN AT HIS FEET, AND HE SAYS, COME, PLEASE, MY DAUGHTER IS DYING, LAY YOUR HANDS ON HER AND HEAL HER.  
HE BELIEVES JESUS CAN DO IT.

SO HE SAID OKAY.

AND SO THEY SET OFF TO JAIRUS' HOUSE.

ON THE WAY THERE, WHICH IS THE FOCUS OF OUR READING, A WOMAN -- SHE IS NOT EVEN NAMED, BUT WHAT WE DO KNOW ABOUT HER IS SHE HAS HAD A BLEEDING ISSUE FOR 12 YEARS.

WE MIGHT SAY, WELL, THAT MUST BE UNCOMFORTABLE.

IT WAS A LOT MORE THAN JUST BEING UNCOMFORTABLE IN JESUS' DAY.

BECAUSE A BLEEDING PROBLEM WAS ONE OF THE THREE BIG THINGS THAT MADE YOU UNCLEAR.

SKIN ISSUES, LIKE LEPROSY, BLEEDING ISSUES, SEXUAL ISSUES, BEING AROUND DEAD THINGS MADE YOU UNCLEAR.

NOW IF YOU WERE UNCLEAR, THAT MEANT THAT ANYTHING THAT YOU TOUCHED WOULD BE UNCLEAR.

SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO TO A WORSHIP SERVICE.

SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SWEEP THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF HER HOUSE, IF THEY HAD SIDEWALKS, BECAUSE WHATEVER SHE TOUCHED WAS UNCLEAR.

SHE COULDN'T DO THE DISHES.

SHE COULDN'T SLEEP IN HER HUSBAND'S BED.

ANYTHING SHE WOULD TOUCH -- SHE WAS AN OUTCAST FOR 12 YEARS, AND IT IS NOT THAT SHE DIDN'T TRY.

SHE MUST HAVE BEEN A WOMAN OF SOME MEANS, BECAUSE IT SAYS SHE HAD SPENT ALL OF HER WEALTH ON DOCTORS, AND YET INSTEAD OF GETTING BETTER, SHE GOT WORSE.

NOW, THERE IS A PARALLEL STORY TO THIS IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE.

YOU GUYS REMEMBER THAT LUKE WAS A DOCTOR, RIGHT?

LUKE TELLS THE STORY, BUT HE CONVENIENTLY LEAVES OUT THE PART ABOUT THE DOCTORS FLEECE HER FOR EVERYTHING THAT SHE HAD.

[LAUGHTER]

>> Pastor Dave: BY ACCIDENT?

NO, I THINK NOT.

ANYWAY, SHE HAS A PLAN IN HER MIND.

SHE HAS HEARD ABOUT JESUS.

AND SHE IS ALSO DESPERATE.

SHE IS ALSO ON HER LAST THREAD, HANGING BY A THREAD.

SHE IS DESPERATE.

SHE HEARS ABOUT JESUS, SO HER PLAN IS, I DON'T WANT TO INTERRUPT HIM BECAUSE ANYBODY I TOUCH, I COULD BE STONED TO DEATH FOR BEING OUT AMONG ALL OF THE PEOPLE.

I NEED TO SNEAK UP ON HIM, AND I NEED TO TOUCH THE HEM OF HIS GARMENT.

I DON'T EVEN NEED TO GET HIS ATTENTION.

THAT WOULD BE ENOUGH AND I WILL AND HEAL.

THERE WERE TWO THINGS THAT WENT WRONG WITH HER PLAN.

THE FIRST ONE WAS: SHE TOUCHED THE HEM OF JESUS, AND SURE ENOUGH SHE WAS HEALED. SHE FELT IN HER BODY THAT HER BLOOD FLOW HAD DRIED UP AND THAT SHE WAS RESTORED, BUT THE PROBLEM WAS JESUS KNEW.

HE FELT POWER GO OUT OF HIM.

NOW, I DON'T KNOW HOW HE FELT POWER -- I DON'T KNOW IF HE HAD A METER, LIKE A SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC THING, AND A LITTLE THING SPUN WHEN POWER WAS GOING OUT OF HIM -- I DON'T KNOW HOW IT WAS, BUT HE KNEW -- HE KNEW SOMEONE HAD TOUCHED HIM. SO HE TURNS AROUND AND HE SAYS, WHO TOUCHED ME?

AND THE DISCIPLES GO, WHAT, C'MON, YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING?

LOOK AT THE CROWD AROUND YOU AND YOU'RE GOING TO ASK WHO TOUCHED YOU?

WELL, JESUS KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A JOSTLE AND A HEALING, AND HE IS LOOKING FOR THIS WOMAN.

AND SO THIS WOMAN, WHO HAS BEEN HEALED -- THAT WENT RIGHT -- BUT NOW SHE IS CALLED OUT.

SHE KNOWS.

AND SO SHE FALLS AT HIS FEET.

MEANWHILE, WHERE IS JAIRUS?

JAIRUS IS STANDING THERE, TOO, LIKE...MY DAUGHTER IS DYING, HELLO, LORD.

SO SHE FALLS ON THE GROUND AT JESUS' FEET AND SHE CONFESSES EVERYTHING.

WHAT IS JESUS GOING TO SAY TO HER?

WHAT, YOU SHOULD BE STONED TO DEATH BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KEEP THE PURITY RULES OF THE PHARISEES?

HERE IS A WOMAN THAT PEOPLE HAVE BEEN YELLING AT: UNCLEAN.

HERE IS A WOMAN WHO CAN'T GO ANYWHERE WHERE THERE IS COMMUNITY FOR 12 LONG YEARS, AND JESUS LOOKS AT HER AND CALLS HER DAUGHTER.

CAN YOU GET ANY MORE INTIMATE THAN THAT?

DAUGHTER.

IT IS THE ONLY TIME IN SCRIPTURE THAT JESUS CALLS ANYONE DAUGHTER.

AND HE IS CALLING THIS WOMAN DAUGHTER.

HE IS RESTORING HER INTO HIS FAMILY.

YOU REMEMBER EARLIER IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK, WHERE THE CROWDS FORCED JESUS INTO THIS ROOM TO TEACH, AND THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE THAT HE CAN'T EVEN EAT.

THE PEOPLE THINK HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND.

SO HIS FAMILY, HIS MOTHER AND HIS BROTHERS, COME, AND THEY SAY TO HIM, LORD, YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE, AND JESUS LOOKS AT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE IN THE ROOM WITH HIM, AND SAYS, "WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS? THOSE WHO DO THE WILL OF GOD ARE MY MOTHER, MY BROTHERS, AND MY SISTERS."

DO YOU KNOW WHO THAT MAKES YOU, THAT DO THE WILL OF GOD?

THAT MAKES YOU A DAUGHTER.

THAT MAKES YOU A SON.

ISN'T THAT AMAZING?

JESUS LOOKS AT THIS WOMAN AND DOESN'T CHEW HER OUT; HE CALLS HER DAUGHTER.

HERE IS THE SECOND THING THAT GOES WRONG.

WHILE JAIRUS IS STANDING THERE, LOOKING AT HIS WATCH, WHILE HIS DAUGHTER IS DYING, SURE ENOUGH SOMEONE SHOWS UP.  
SOMEONE SHOWS UP AND SAYS, YOUR DAUGHTER IS DEAD, DON'T BOTHER THE TEACHER ANYMORE.  
SO WHILE JESUS IS HEALING SOMEONE, SOMEONE ELSE DIES.  
NOW THAT'S SOMETHING THAT I THINK WE NEED TO TAKE A LOOK AT.  
BECAUSE HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW THAT THAT'S THE WAY LIFE IS?  
SOME PEOPLE GET HEALED, AND SOME PEOPLE DIE.  
WE KNOW HOW THIS STORY ENDS, JUST AS WE KNOW HOW OUR STORIES ARE GOING TO END.  
WHEN WE CLOSE OUR EYES AT LAST TO THIS LIFE AND OPEN THEM UP TO LIFE ETERNAL -- BUT I'M NOT THERE YET, I JUST JUMPED AHEAD -- SPOILER ALERT.  
THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD, AND THE LORD HAS WON THE VICTORY FOR US ALL.  
SO DON'T BOTHER THE TEACHER ANYMORE, YOUR DAUGHTER IS DEAD.  
SO JESUS SAYS TO HIM, DON'T BE AFRAID, JUST BELIEVE.  
SO JESUS GOES WITH PETER, JOHN AND JAMES AND JAIRUS.  
AND THEY GO TO THE HOUSE -- THEY GO TO THE HOUSE AND EVERYBODY IS WAILING AND MOANING AND GRIEVING.  
AND JESUS GOES, WHY ARE YOU DOING ALL OF THIS?  
WELL, THE LITTLE GIRL IS DEAD.  
AND HE GOES, NO, SHE IS JUST ASLEEP, AND THEY LAUGHED.  
SO HE DROVE THEM OUT OF THE HOUSE.  
I WONDER HOW HE GOT THEM OUT OF THE HOUSE?  
I GUESS IF YOU'RE JESUS, YOU CAN DO PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING.  
SO HE GOT THEM OUT OF THE HOUSE.  
HE BROUGHT THE THREE DISCIPLES AND THE PARENTS INTO THIS LITTLE GIRL'S ROOM.  
AND HE TOOK HER HAND AND SAID, "TALITHAKUM," LITTLE GIRL, I SAY TO YOU GET UP.  
AND SHE GOT UP, STARTED WALKING AROUND.  
AND THEN I LOVE THIS PART: HE SAID, "GIVE HER SOMETHING TO EAT."  
I GUESS BEING DEAD GIVES YOU A BIG CASE OF THE MUNCHIES.  
[LAUGHTER]  
>> Pastor Dave: "GIVE HER SOMETHING TO EAT."  
HOW GREAT IS THAT?  
WE'LL GET BACK TO THAT IN A LITTLE BIT.  
LET'S REVIEW A FEW THINGS.  
ONE OF THE THINGS IS, THIS WOMAN WHO CAME TO JESUS WAS LOOKING FOR A SOMETHING.  
SHE WAS LOOKING FOR A CURE.  
BUT THAT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR JESUS.  
JESUS IS NEVER LOOKING FOR A SOMETHING; HE IS LOOKING FOR A SOMEONE.  
TO BE IN A DISCIPLESHIP OF JESUS ISN'T ABOUT GETTING ALL OF OUR NEEDS MET.  
IT IS GREAT WHEN THAT HAPPENS.  
BUT A DISCIPLESHIP IS FORMING A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST, THE CREATOR OF EVERYTHING VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE.  
JESUS WANTS NOT TO JUST BE CHECKING IN ON PARTS OF YOUR LIFE.  
HE WANTS YOUR HEART; HE WANTS ALL OF YOU.

IT WASN'T ENOUGH THAT JESUS WOULD JUST HEAL HER.  
HE WANTED HER TO KNOW HIM.  
HE WANTED HER TO KNOW HIS MERCY.  
HE WANTED HER TO EXPERIENCE HIS GRACE, AND NOT JUST THE HEALING.  
IN FACT, WHEN HE SAID, "YOUR FAITH HAS HEALED YOU," THE GREEK WORD IS "SOZO," AND IT MEANS HEALING AND IT MEANS SALVATION.  
IT MEANS SAVED.  
YOUR FAITH HAS HEALED YOU TO THE POINT WHERE YOU HAVE SALVATION.  
WHY?  
BECAUSE JESUS IS PRESENT.  
WHEREVER JESUS IS AT IS WHERE SALVATION IS FOR THOSE OF US THAT WILL REACH OUT JUST TO TOUCH THE HEM OF HIS GARMENT.  
WOW!  
EXPLORING A LITTLE DEEPER THIS IDEA THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE HEALED AND SOME PEOPLE ARE NOT,  
WE KNOW IT TO BE TRUE.  
IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK 1, IT TELLS US THAT PEOPLE WERE BRINGING -- THE WHOLE CITY CAME OUT AND PEOPLE WERE BRINGING ALL OF THE PEOPLE THAT WERE SICK.  
AND JESUS HEALED MANY.  
HE DOESN'T SAY HE HEALED THEM ALL.  
HE SAYS HE HEALED MANY.  
AND, YOU KNOW, THIS LITTLE GIRL THAT JESUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD, HAVE ANY OF YOU TALKED TO HER LATELY?  
DO YOU HAVE HER CONTACT INFORMATION?  
NO?  
WHY?  
BECAUSE SHE'S BEEN DEAD FOR ABOUT 2,000 YEARS.  
IT IS JUST A TEMPORARY STOP.  
AMEN?  
ALL OF THE HEALINGS THAT JESUS DID WERE TEMPORARY.  
PEOPLE DIED ANYWAY.  
WE ALL NEED TO KNOW THAT THERE IS GOING TO COME A TIME WHEN THE WARRANTIES ON OUR MOVING PARTS ARE GOING TO EXPIRE.  
AND THAT'S WHEN THIS LIFE ENDS.  
EVERY DAY WE'RE GETTING CLOSER.  
I DON'T MEAN TO BE MORBID.  
I'M JUST BEING REALISTIC ABOUT IT.  
ANY KIND OF HEALING THAT WE SEE IN THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE OR AT THE MEDICAL THINGS, THEY'RE WONDERFUL, THEY'RE GREAT, BUT THEY'RE JUST A REMINDER OF THAT GREAT HEALING THAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN WE BREATHE OUR LAST HERE ON EARTH, WHEN WE OPEN OUR EYES, WHEN WE FALL ASLEEP TO THIS LIFE AND OPEN OUR EYES TO HAVE JESUS HOLDING OUR HAND AND SAYS, CHILD, I SAY TO YOU GET UP.  
AND THEN I HOPE HE SAYS TO ME, TOO, GIVE HIM SOMETHING TO EAT (laughing) BECAUSE THE BIBLE TALKS ABOUT THAT GREAT HEAVENLY BANQUET.

NOW, WE'RE NOT THERE YET.  
JESUS WAS BREAKING INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.  
HE SAID THE TIME IS FULFILLED, THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND.  
SEE, THE ETERNAL GOD HAS BROKEN INTO OUR TEMPORAL WORLD TO GIVE US A TASTE -- A  
FORETASTE -- OF WHAT IS TO COME.  
AND WHAT IS TO COME IS LIFE EVERLASTING.  
REVELATION 11:15 SAYS: "THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT IS BECOMING THE KINGDOM OF GOD  
AND HIS CHRIST."  
IT IS HAPPENING HERE AMONG US, IN THIS LIFE.  
AND IN THE NEXT LIFE, IT WILL BE COMPLETELY FULFILLED.  
I JUST LOVE THE PICTURE THAT THIS SHOWS, THAT THIS LITTLE GIRL CLOSED HER EYES IN  
DEATH.  
AND WHEN SHE OPENED THEM UP, SHE LOOKED INTO THE FACE OF PURE LOVE.  
SHE LOOKED INTO THE FACE OF JESUS CHRIST.  
HE TOOK HER HAND AND SAID, "CHILD, I SAY TO YOU RISE."  
THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO.  
FOR ALL OF ETERNITY, WHETHER WE ARE HEALED HERE ON THIS EARTH OR NOT, WE WILL BE  
HEALED FOREVER BY THE TOUCHING HAND OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.  
AND MAY THE PEACE OF GOD THAT SURPASSES ALL HUMAN UNDERSTANDING GUARD YOUR  
HEARTS AND MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. AMEN.