

HEALING OVER HIDING

LUKE 8:43-48

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE – MARCH 15, 2026

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 8:42-48 (ESV)

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

What do you think makes it difficult for people in general to be fully known by others? After a few answers, follow up with... Which of those barriers do you see most often in your own life?

(For example: fear that others won't keep things confidential, not wanting to burden others, busyness, being naturally private, fear of people thinking less of you, not knowing what appropriate vulnerability looks like, something else?)

SERMON RECAP

Last week, our church began an initiative called Reach One, which is focused on getting to know people and helping people get to know Jesus. It's a prayerful, intentional way of seeing people God places in your path and actually doing something about it—one name, one story, one relationship at a time. Over these weeks leading up to Easter, we are looking at different interactions Jesus had with individuals in the Gospels so we can learn from Him how to see the one and love the one.

In this passage, Jesus encounters a woman who had been suffering for twelve years with a condition that left her physically weak, socially isolated, and spiritually excluded. Desperate for healing, she quietly pushed through the crowd and touched Jesus' garment—and she was immediately healed.

But Jesus stopped and asked, "Who touched me?"

He already knew the answer. He asked because He wanted her to be known, not hidden.

When she came forward trembling, Jesus responded with compassion and truth:

- He removed her shame, calling her "Daughter."
- He reinforced her faith, showing that her healing came through trust in Him.
- He restored her hope, telling her to "go in peace."

This story reminds us that true healing often happens when we step out of hiding and allow ourselves to be fully known. It also shows us how Jesus sees individuals—even in the middle of a crowd.

Pastor Mike encouraged us that "you can choose healing or you can choose hiding, but you can't choose both."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Observation: What does this passage say?

1. What do we learn about the woman's condition and circumstances before she encounters Jesus?
2. What action does the woman take when she sees Jesus, and what happens immediately afterward?
3. What do you notice about the way Jesus interacts with the woman once she comes forward?

Interpretation: What does the passage mean?

1. Why do you think Jesus stopped and publicly asked who touched Him?
2. What would she have missed out on had she stayed hidden?
3. Why is it significant that Jesus calls her "Daughter"? What does this communicate about her identity and belonging?
4. Initially, the woman seems more interested in just discreetly "touching Jesus' garment" for healing rather than engaging in the intimate, honest, interpersonal interaction Jesus ultimately has with her. What's the difference between wanting something from Jesus and actually wanting Jesus himself?
5. Jesus ends by telling her, "Go in peace." After twelve years of suffering and isolation, what kind of peace do you think He was giving her? Follow up with: What does the idea of shalom—complete peace and restoration under God's blessing—help us understand about what Jesus was offering her?

Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?

1. Where do you see people today trying to deal with pain or shame privately instead of bringing it into the light?
2. Applying this passage for yourself:
 - Why do you think that deeper healing in your life may require honesty, vulnerability, and being known by others?
 - Are there areas of your life where you are tempted to stay hidden instead of bringing things into the light?
 - What is one simple way you could help someone in your life feel seen or valued this week?
3. Applying this passage for others:
 - Who are some “ones” in your life—neighbors, coworkers, classmates, or family members—who may feel unseen or disconnected?
 - As a group, share the names of people you are praying for and ask God to help you see and love them the way Jesus does.
 - In addition to prayer for these people, what is another practical step you can take this week to help these people not remain “hidden.”

CLOSE BY PRAYER FOR:

- The names shared tonight.
- Courage to step out of hiding.
- Opportunities to help others feel seen the way Jesus sees them.