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a 4. 42).

29. Straightway. Contrast the "twelve years" of ver. 25. An instantaneous cure; quick as thought; swift as the divine love that caused it. **She felt.** A new and almost forgotten sensation of vigor and health suddenly made known her cure. **Was healed.** Greek, "has been healed," denoting a continuing sense of health.

II. The Confession (vers. 30-34). 30. Straightway. Mark cannot drop the narrative there as though it were a case of magic; he asks immediate attention to the fact that the cure was consummated by the will of Jesus. **The power.** The miraculous healing power. **From him.** Which was characteristic of him, and belonged to him. **Gone forth.** And wrought upon some one. **Turned.** To look at the person who had been blessed, and secure an open confession of the power and mercy of God (5. 19). **Touched my garments.** Greek, "Who touched me, my clothes." Luke, "touched me." "The flesh presses, but faith touches." **31. Thronging.** Luke, "press thee and crush thee." Why ask about a touch in a jostling and struggling crowd? To all but one, a meaningless question. Luke adds that all present denied having touched him. **32. Looked round about.** Not sternly but eagerly. The Greek tense depicts a careful and continued scrutiny. This quest of the eye is peculiar to Mark. **To see her.** Not, to see *who*; implying that he miraculously knew who had touched him. **Done this thing.** Had secretly touched his garment and secured healing. Luke adds, "the woman saw that she was not hid." **33. Trembling.** The outer, involuntary sign of inner mental agitation. **Knowing.** The reason of her agitation, the fear of a return of her malady as a penalty

for her stealth. **Fell down.** The posture of penitence and supplication. **The truth.** In contrast, not to falsehood, but to the secrecy implied in "came behind" (ver. 27) and "felt in her body" (ver. 29). She told who had touched him, and why, and what had followed. **34. Daughter.** The first syllable assuages her fear. Her sympathy, his reverence, goes out at once toward the wasted figure. "This is the only woman upon whom Jesus is recorded to have bestowed any epithet but a formal one." **Thy faith.** Her belief that Jesus could easily do what all others had failed to do. **Made thee whole.** Jesus knew that he would be in her eyes thereafter more than a physician; she would readily believe in him as the Son of God, and so be "saved" (margin). **Peace.** Spiritual peace. The Greek represents it as a new experience to her. **Be whole.** These words dispel any remaining fear of a relapse.

III. Application.

1. *Secret Sorrow.* Have you no holy hidden personal sorrow? Have not those you teach, even the youngest? The Shunammite's secret anguish when she said, "It is well," 2 Kings 4. 26, 27. Hannah, 1 Sam. 1. 10. Peter, Matt. 26. 75. Mary, John 11. 30. Christ's sympathy, Psa. 103. 3; John 11. 11, 35; Heb. 4. 15.

2. *Faith.* Intellectual faith, "heard the things concerning Jesus" (ver. 27); saving faith, "came and touched" him.

3. *Assurance.* How did she know the cure had been wrought? (a) "Felt in her body," personal experience. Like the witness of our own spirit to our adoption. (b) Jesus said, "Thy faith hath saved thee." This is like the witness of the Holy Spirit to our adoption. Rom. 8. 16; Gal. 4. 6. Hymn 437 (Hymnal).

HOME READINGS.

M. The timid woman's touch. Mark 5. 25-34.
Th. A sympathizing Saviour, Heb. 4. 14 to 5. 2.
W. Compassion of Jesus. Isa. 42. 1-8.
Th. The mercy of God. Psa. 103. 13-22.
F. Encouragement to trust. Isa. 40. 26-31.
S. Faith needed. Mark 9. 17-23.
S. Humble confidence. Psa. 53. 13-22.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be not afraid, only believe. Mark 5. 36.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 11, Dominion Hymnal.
Jesus! the name high over all,
In hell, or earth, or sky.

No. 15, Dominion Hymnal.
Salvation! O the joyful sound!
What pleasure to our ears!

No. 17, Dominion Hymnal.
I need thee, precious Jesus!
For I am full of sin.

TIME.—28 A. D.

PLACE.—Capernaum.

RULERS.—Same as before.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Confession of sin.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

- 1. The Touch of Faith.**
What circumstances in this woman's story always arouse sympathy?
What had her experience taught her as to her future?
What made her seek Jesus?
What does her purpose show as to her condition, physical and mental?
Was there any superstition in her act, or was it her last act of despair?
What did Jesus say it was that prompted her act?
What Golden Text of the past lessons of the quarter is suggested by her act? Psa. 103. 3.
What was the effect of her touch?
How does God look upon such silent acts of faith?
- 2. The Word of Power.**
What thing unexpected by the women happened?

What does the question of Jesus prove concerning him?

How is the difference between him and the disciples in this respect shown?

Was Jesus satisfied with the explanation of the disciples?

What did his action cause the woman to do?

What did he once say about denial and confession? Matt. 10. 32, 33.

What was the word of power?

Practical Teachings.

Here was a woman whose prayer for help was an act, not a spoken word; but God heard it.

When she heard of Jesus she went for help. Did you? How long since you first heard of him?

Jesus kept looking till he found the poor sufferer. He came to seek and to save. But he only finds those who seek him. Has he found you?

He will have no secret disciples. If his help is worth having, it is worth confessing.

"Go in peace." No one ever hears that but the soul that has sought, found, touched, and confessed Jesus. Have you?

Hints for Home Study.

- Carefully read these few verses; read them over and over so often that you can tell them accurately without the text.
- Compare your own condition, if not a Christian, with the condition of this woman. You are worse troubled than she. Physicians might have helped her, but they cannot help you.
- Pray each day that you may understand the bearing of this on your own case.
- Look out carefully all the marginal references, to find light on this story; and, as before, compare with the story of Luke and Matthew.
- Write out the story which this woman would have to tell to her family when she went home.

QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

- 1. The Touch of Faith,** vs. 25-29.
Who came to Jesus on his return from Decapolis?
ver. 22.
What did he ask of Jesus? ver. 23.
Who sought Jesus in the crowd?
What did she do?
What did her touch show that she possessed?
What was the effect of her touch?
How may we touch Christ? (Golden Text.)
What will he do for us?