**FAITH THAT CONNECTS TO GOD**

**Text: Matthew 9:18-26**

* 18 While He spoke these things to them, behold, a ruler came and worshiped Him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay Your hand on her and she will live.”
* 19 So Jesus arose and followed him, and so *did* His disciples.
* 20 And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment.
* 21 For she said to herself, “If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.”
* 22 But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, “Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well.”
* And the woman was made well from that hour.
* 23 When Jesus came into the ruler’s house, and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd wailing,
* 24 He said to them, “Make room, for the girl is not dead, but sleeping.” And they ridiculed Him.
* 25 But when the crowd was put outside, He went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose.
* 26 And the report of this went out into all that land.

**INTRO:**

* Romans 14:23 for whatever *is* not from faith is sin.
* Everything we do must be done because of faith
* We come here in church
* We seek the kingdom of God
* We sing praise and worship the Lord
* We offer money
* We serve
* We pray

**AIM:**

* FOR US TO BE ALWAYS CONNECTED WITH GOD THROUGH FAITH
* FOR US TO RECEIVE OUR PRAYERS THROUGH FAITH

**I. FAITH THAT SPEAKS AND ACTS-v 18**

* My daughter has just died, but come and lay Your hand on her and she will live.
* Faith is what you believe in your heart but speaking it releases the power
* Matthew 21:21  So Jesus answered and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree,
* but also if you say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ it will be done.
* The ruler worshipped Jesus
* to kiss the hand to (towards) one, in token of reverence
* to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence
* in the NT by kneeling or prostration to do homage (to one) or make
* obeisance, whether in order to express respect or to make supplication
* used of homage shown to men and beings of superior rank

**II. FAITH DRAWS THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD-V 19**

* So Jesus arose and followed him
* God does not respond to our needs but to our faith
* Faith is the currency in the kingdom of God
* Without money you cannot buy anything, without faith you cannot receive anything
* James 1: 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.
* 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

**III. FAITH CONNECTS TO GOD AND HIS POWER-VS 20-21**

* The woman touched the hem of His garment
* She had been bleeding for 12 years
* Has suffered many things from physician-Mark 5:26
* She had spent all the she had and was no better
* It grew worse
* When she heard about Jesus she came behind Him and touched His garment-v 27

**IV. FAITH EXPECTS-V 21**

* She believed and expected healing to take place and it did
* For she said, If I only touch His garment, I shall be made well.
* We have faith if we believe on the things we cannot see and on the things we hope for-Hebrews 11:1
* Because we are hoping we should be expecting or anticipating
* Ex. Acts 12:5 Peter was in prison but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church
* V 14 Rhoda didn’t opened the door for gladness
* V 15 They did not believed her and accuse her of being out of her mind
* V 16 they were astonished

1. **FAITH WILL MAKE ALL THINGS WELL-V 22**

* Jesus told her, “be of good cheer your faith has made you well”
* She was made well from that hour
* John 16:33 In this world there will be many tribulations, but be of good cheer, Jesus has overcome the world
* I John 5:5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
* By faith ALL IS WELL
* Ex. Shunammite woman’s son died
* II Kings 4:23 It is well she said
* V 26 ‘*Is it* well with you? *Is it* well with your husband? *Is it* well with the child?’ ” And she answered, “*It is* well.”

**VI. THE CONFESSION OF FAITH**

* When Jesus came into the ruler’s house, and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd wailing-V 23
* He said to them, “Make room, for the girl is not dead, but sleeping.”-V 24
* Faith is looking on the power of God, beyond what eyes can see
* John 6:5 Then Jesus lifted up *His* eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?”
* 6 But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.
* 7 Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.”
* 8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him,
* 9 “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?”
* Your faith is determined by your focus
* And they ridiculed Him.

**VII. THE GIFT OF FAITH-V 25**

* But when the crowd was put outside, He went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose.
* They were unbelievers
* They were not of the same faith with Him
* They could pull you you down
* Not all people are meant to be with you at some point of life
* Sometimes you have to do things on your own
* Ex. Abraham left Sarah and his servants when he offered Isaac
* Matthew 17:1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves.
* Hebrews 12:27 Now this, *“Yet once more,”* indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.
* He went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose.
* Faith takes the impossibilities and make it possible
* It also takes or receive the answer to our prayers.
* By faith we can heal illnesses
* By faith we can deliver the oppressed, the possessed, those in bondage
* By faith we can take cities for Christ

**CHALLENGE:**

* Does your faith connects to the power of God?
* Does it draws the power of God?
* Are you expecting results because you believe in His power?

**CONCLUSION:**

* Matthew 9: 22 But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, “Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that hour.