

Lent Day 11  
Monday February 22, 2016

**Reading:** Mark 5.25-34

#### Reflection

We human beings are a pretty superstitious lot. I remember when I was a kid, walking to school and avoiding stepping on the line between two concrete slabs so I wouldn't break my mother's back - I was thoughtful like that. I also remember thinking I had better stop that because God orders the world not me. At that age it never occurred to me that I might actually approach God with a superstitious attitude, but, of course, I did.

What's amazing about God is that he honours even these childish ways of thinking. That's not to say that he grants all our wishes, just because we wished them toward him. But, in our moments of desperation when we turn to him, he is attentive.

Imagine the desperateness of this woman; for 12 years she has been bleeding. For 12 years she has been ceremonially unclean which means she cannot go worship (the most important action for a member of the people of God) and she couldn't be in society, to be so would be to make other's unclean. We see how desperate she is when she makes up her mind to touch Jesus' cloak - her choice is to make someone she reveres unclean. Is she being superstitious? May be. But more importantly she is healed.

But God isn't just about healing, he's about transforming. Jesus knows what's happened. Look at verse 32, Jesus looked around for her! He asked the question "who touched me?" But he looked for her. What led to your healing daughter wasn't your belief but the person you put your faith in - your faith has made you well and for that reason she can go in peace.

Jesus has come with the kingdom; Jesus is the kingdom! We no longer need to look for ways to control the universe or God. God has granted us healing and transformation in the person of Jesus. We need simply turn to him.

#### Prayer

Rescuer and healer, transform our attempts to control into true faith in you. Grant us the courage to trust you and grant us peace. Amen.