

Community Group Study Guide
For the Week of October 8th - 14th

Please read Luke 8:40-56.

1. The woman with the discharge of blood approaches Jesus from behind and touches the fringe of his garment (verses 43-44).

- a. Is there any reason why she would want to keep her condition secret? Should she have been in the crowd? (See Leviticus 15:25-27)
- b. Why did she think that touching the fringe of his garment would heal her?
- c. How much faith did it require to secretly touch Jesus' garment?
- d. Why did touching the garment cause her to be healed?
- e. How did she know that she had been healed so quickly?

2. Jesus recognized that someone had deliberately touched him because power went out of him.

- a. Was the power under his control? Why or why not?
- b. When Jesus asked, "Who was it that touched me?", do you think that he knew who had touched him and why?

3. The woman confessed in public what she had done and why (verse 47).

- a. She was already healed (verse 44), why do you think she needed to admit that to everyone?
- b. Why do you think she was trembling?
- c. How much faith was required to make this confession?
- d. When Jesus commends her faith in verse 48, is he commending her for touching him or for confessing why she had touched him?

4. The story of Jairus' daughter (verses 40-42 and 49-56) is interrupted by the story of this woman (verses 43-48).

- a. Do you think Luke is simply relating these events chronologically, or is he making a point about how the stories are connected? If so, how are they connected?
- b. If you were Jairus, how would you have felt about the delay caused by the healing of the bleeding woman when he learns that his daughter has died (verse 49)?
- c. Jairus' daughter is 12 years old, about the age for marriage. Do you think this might in any way be related to the problem of the bleeding woman? Why or why not?

5. In verse 50, Jesus tells Jairus that if he believes, his daughter will be well. Back in verse 48, he told the woman that her faith had made her well.

- a. What is the relationship between belief and faith?
- b. Both the woman's bleeding and the daughter's death are "made well" (the Greek verb used is usually translated "saved"). According to Jesus, what is it that saves them? (See Luke 8:12)
- c. Is the power Jesus has over death in some way the same as the power that he has over illness? (see Ephesians 2:8)
- d. Do you think that the power Jesus has over death and illness is in some way similar to the power he has over demons and the forces of nature in Luke 8:22-39?
- e. What is it that has caused mankind to be oppressed by illness, death, demons, and the forces of nature in the first place? (See Genesis 3:15-17)

6. In verse 52, Jesus tells the mourners that the girl is not dead but sleeping.

- a. How is death unlike sleep?
- b. How was this child's death like sleep?
- c. Is all death like sleep in this way because of what Jesus has done? Please explain your answer.