

5. The woman takes several risks coming to Jesus for healing and approaching him in a crowd. What does this say about her desperation and her faith?

6. What is the message the crowds, the synagogue leader, and the woman would have heard if they took Jesus's words to the woman to heart?

7. Of the four responses to desperate circumstances listed in the sermon, identify the one you most struggle to apply. What do you need to do to grow in that area of your faith and trust?

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Where is God leading you with your BLESS list this week?



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## SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

### Meeting Jesus

"What to Do in Desperate Circumstances"

Matthew 9:18-26

Meeting Jesus is a transformative encounter that redirects us in a new and exciting direction.

### What to Do in Desperate Circumstances

1. In desperate circumstances, come as you \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus.

You don't have to dust yourself off and make yourself \_\_\_\_\_ before coming to Jesus with your needs.

2. In desperate circumstances, \_\_\_\_\_ yourself before Jesus.  
Desperate circumstances level the playing field.

"Both the respected synagogue ruler and the marginal woman seep with an open wound of human need. Money, power, influence, networks and family status—all of these resources may help us cover our need for a while, but eventually life will rip off our Band-Aids and expose our wounds." (David Woodley)

3. In desperate circumstances, \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus's timing and will.  
Desperate circumstances can cause us to wait on his timing and will.

"Jesus takes the time to comfort and teach an unclean woman with a chronic problem, causing a male church leader in urgent need to wait." (Dick Lucas)

4. In desperate circumstances, \_\_\_\_\_ completely on God.

John 5: <sup>19</sup> Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself..."

Matthew 26: <sup>39</sup> "Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

You and I \_\_\_\_\_ live in desperate circumstances.

It's only by God's \_\_\_\_\_ grace to humanity that we didn't die on the spot in Genesis 3. And it's only by God's grace in Christ that our relationship with him isn't severed by the sins we already committed today.

Philippians 2:6-11

### Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. What irritates you most: waiting in traffic, waiting in a long line at the store, or waiting for someone to call or text you back?
3. Read Matthew 9:18-26. Describe how the synagogue leader would have felt as he waited for Jesus to talk to the woman who had been healed.
4. What are some of the ways the synagogue leader humbles himself in this account?