

The Ministry Of Our Church Should Be High-Touch!

Sermon Series: Impressions, Pt. 1

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IMPRESSION - a strong effect produced by an agency or influence; a mark, indentation, etc. which is produced by pressure.

TOUCH - to put the hand, finger, etc. on or into contact with something to feel it or perceive it; to bring (the hand, finger, etc.) into contact with something.

Jesus Had A Very HIGH-TOUCH Ministry

1) Jesus Heals A LEPER

Matthew 8:1, *Then He came down from the mountain, great crowds followed Him. ²And behold, a leper came to Him and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, if you will, You can make me clean." ³And Jesus **stretched out His hand and touched him**, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. ⁴And Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to them."*

Lessons From The Leper:

- Sin separates us from God and His Church, but through Christ, our sins can be forgiven and we can be restored!
- We can confidently approach Jesus with all our needs and with all our sin - and when we ask for healing and forgiveness, He will never turn us away!

Hebrews 4:16, *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

2) Jesus Heals Peter's MOTHER-IN-LAW

Matthew 8:14, *And when Jesus entered Peter's house, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. ¹⁵**He touched her hand**, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve Him.*

- When God's power touches your life - the only proper response is to serve Him!

3) Jesus Heals A Woman WHO TOUCHED HIM

Matthew 9:19, *And Jesus rose and followed him, with His disciples. ²⁰And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind Him and **touched** the fringe of His garment, ²¹for she said to herself, "**If I only touch His garment, I will be made well.**" ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her He said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.*

- When you are struggling with something - Jesus is the only place to go!

4) Jesus Heals Two BLIND MEN

Matthew 9:27, *And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." ²⁸When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." ²⁹Then He **touched** their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." ³⁰And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, "See that no one knows about it." ³¹But they went away and spread His fame through all that district.*

Thoughts On Jesus' Miracles:

- Jesus could and did heal every kind of sickness or infirmity but He did not heal everyone.
- The details of each miracle vary slightly. Jesus never healed the same way twice.
- The variety of methods used by the Lord eliminates confidence in any one technique or modus operandi.
- Jesus' miracles were never more important than His message!

Matthew 4:23, *And He went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and **proclaiming the gospel** of the kingdom and **healing every disease** and **every affliction** among the people.*

Application:

- *God Can And Does Still Heal!*
- *If Jesus Had A High-Touch Ministry, **SO SHOULD WE!***
- *Our Ministry Should Be Filled With Words And **WORKS**, Proclamation And **POWER**, Doctrine And **DEEDS!***