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## Lives Changed by Jesus

Week Eight | The Bleeding Woman – “Daughter” (Luke 8:40-56)

*For a brief overview of why (and how) to engage in each of these practices, you can read the Guideline For Growing on our website*

<https://www.gymeabaptist.org.au/growing/pages/guideline-for-growing>

### OVERVIEW:

In this series we will be exploring several New Testament characters whose lives were changed by an encounter with Jesus. Over the course of the series we will dive into the transformation they experienced, the focus of their encounter, the required response, any friends who were involved, and the invitation into mission. The importance of these five aspects will vary but will be a consistent part of the discipleship menus.

As in previous “menus” there will be a variety of activities to take up. These can be done by yourself (God and You), with a couple of friends (You and a Few), or in a Life Group (You and a Crew). As with any menu, choose what resonates with you. In other words, there is no need to do all of the menu!

Just one more reminder that you can listen to the sermon that accompanies the discipleship menu - it can be found on our website or wherever you listen to podcasts. You may also want to listen to The Big Ill podcast; a mid-week podcast that explores three big questions raised by the sermon.

### PASSAGES TO READ

Make Luke 8:40-56 the central reading this week. Read it aloud multiple times.

As you do, you may want to picture the scene in your mind and picture where you are in the scene. Who do you associate with? How close are you to the “action”? This kind of imaginative reading is a very helpful way to read narrative texts.

You may also want to use the four questions we use when we “Read the Bible Together”: What stands out to you? What questions do you have? What is the invitation to you? And Who can you tell?

This is a story also told in Matthew and Mark. Have a look at their accounts (Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43) and note the differences in how they tell the story. These differences are often related to the purpose the story plays in their portrait of Jesus.

## QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON (JOURNAL)

1. Jesus knew that “power has gone out from me”. What do you think characterises a touch of faith?
2. Luke describes the crowd as “choking”; the same word (in the Greek) that Jesus uses to describe the thorns that choke out the seed, keeping it from bearing fruit. The example of the woman (and the synagogue ruler) is one of not allowing anything to choke out faith. What else chokes faith? (You may want to return to the parable of the soils for a few starter ideas!)
3. The woman (and the synagogue ruler) both didn’t allow circumstances to choke out their faith. What can we learn from both of them?
4. By calling the woman “daughter” Jesus adopts the woman into his family; doing for her what Jairus was able to do for his daughter. Have you had a similar moment when you have realised that you are a daughter of son of God? What does that relationship mean to you?

## A THEME TO PRAY ABOUT

Pray that you will be able to live as a daughter or son of God and that you will not allow anything to choke out your faith. As an additional “challenge” why not attempt to pray these prayers in a crowd? As you wait for a train, as you walk towards school pick up, as you supervise recess, as you wait in line for a coffee, pray that your faith will not be choked out by “the crowd”.