



Week 3 **“Desperate Faith”**

INTRODUCTION

Group exercise time! Go ahead and close your eyes for just a moment. Imagine that you are at a live concert. It’s a concert of your favorite musician or band. The excitement is erupting as they take the stage to perform! Enter one major problem: you’re at the way back of the crowd! The stage seems as if it’s a mile away. What are you going to do?! This is the only time you will ever get to see them, EVER! Desperately, you start to push and shove your way through the crowd, finding openings and sliding into them. You look up and see you are only halfway there. With increased motivation, you double your efforts, perhaps faking an injury or “searching for your lost sibling” or whatever you have to do to get closer to the front. Finally, you reach the first row and get to bask in the glory of hearing your favorite song from within mere feet of the stage! Totally worth it!!! Alright, thank you, you can all open your eyes again.

If we can chase after something with concert-like passion where we’ll do whatever it takes, why can’t we chase after God with that same reckless abandon? Why do we “push and shove” our way towards something in life that in the end is not worth it. We pour our hearts and souls into empty pursuits for fleeting pleasure. We “fight our way” towards false hopes that can’t provide us with the refuge we need. As followers of Christ, we need to channel this same desperate approach in our faith journey. Recognizing the plans God has for us, we should have an urgency to run into the arms of He who offers us peace, healing and victory! By experiencing His love and grace comes a desire to share the gospel with everyone who doesn’t yet know of the love found in Jesus alone!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What has been a situation in your life where you have become desperate? How did you handle it?
2. Why can it be tough to have faith in God when our situation becomes desperate?

Read Mark 5:21-34

3. Why do we have the tendency to be like the women and seek all sorts of worldly answers first before we go to God?
4. What are your thoughts when you read verses 27 & 28?
5. In verse 29 the woman was healed completely. Has there been a time in your life when God has healed you completely of a physical, spiritual, or emotional ailment? Share with the group.
6. Why do you think Jesus wanted to confront the person who touched His robe?
7. What can we take away from verse 34 about Jesus Christ’s character? Why is it important for us to see this?

Read Romans 5:20

“You are not too dirty for Jesus”

8. Have you ever felt like you were too “unclean” to come to Jesus? Explain.
9. How does it encourage you to know that His grace is more powerful than your sin?

Read Hebrews 11:6

“Faith activates the power of Christ in our life”

10. Why do you think our faith activates the power of Christ?
11. Do you reach out to Jesus in faith? Is it easy or difficult? Explain.

ACTION STEP

For your action step this week, make an intentional effort to examine how desperate your faith is right now. Spend time in prayer, reaching out to the Lord our Father and seeking his face. God wants to be in connection with all of His children, but we also need to activate our faith. Genuinely go after God!

Take Next Steps + Pray Together + Take Care of Each Other = Community Groups!