

# The Touch of Jesus

*“Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.” (Luke 4:40)*

Lessons from miracles Jesus did, as they are recorded in the Book of Luke.

## LESSON 2: Healing a Man With Palsy

*“And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them. And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.” (Luke 5:17-18)*

As you listen to the teacher, fill in the blanks!

1. God’s limitless power is controlled and directed by His \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Recurring themes in the Book of Luke are p\_\_\_\_\_, p\_\_\_\_\_, p\_\_\_\_\_, and p\_\_\_\_\_.  
(See Chapters 1, 3-4, 5, and 24).
3. They also are found repeatedly in the other Bible book written by Luke, the Book of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ were evidence that God was working through Jesus.

The disease called “*palsy*” in Luke 5:18 involved paralysis. Obviously, the man healed by Jesus in the story told in verses 16 through 26 had paralyzed legs. There is a strange twist in this story, as you will notice. When the poor man was brought to Jesus, instead of granting him healing, the Lord gave him the forgiveness of his sins! There is an important lesson for us in this!

### ***“The Power of the Lord Was Present . . .”***

As we often see in the Book of Luke, earnest prayer brings great power to this situation (vs. 16-17). When Jesus prayed at His baptism (Luke 2:21) the power of the Holy Spirit came upon His life (Luke 3:22, 4:1 and 4:14). In Luke 5, he “*withdrew himself*” to some solitary place, and the power of the Lord came. We read several times in Luke’s book about Jesus going aside to pray, and in every case, something remarkable resulted (See 6:12-18 and 9:28-31). God does answer prayer, and we really need to spend quality time praying!

### ***“When He Saw Their Faith. . .”***

Notice that it was the faith of those who brought the crippled man that Jesus saw! It took faith to do what they did to get him to Jesus (vs. 18-19). Faith takes different forms and comes in different sizes. Jesus taught us to use what faith we have (Luke 17:6). The leper had enough faith to say, “*Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst . . .*” (Luke 5:12). He didn’t have enough faith to be sure that Jesus *would* heal him, but faith enough to believe that He *could* heal him was enough to get him healed! We know nothing of the crippled man’s faith, but the faith of his determined friends brought him the blessing! And their faith was more action than feeling. If you act on faith in God, you have faith in God! To pray at all, for example, is a step of faith according to Hebrews 11:6.

### ***“Thy Sins Are Forgiven . . .”***

Before doing anything about the palsied man’s paralysis, Jesus did something about his sins. One reason He acted as He did in verses 20-26 was to show that the salvation of the soul is more important than the healing of the body. This truth is taught also in Chapter 4. Read verses 38 through 44, and see that Jesus left a place where people needed healing in order to go to another place to “*preach*.” He says in verse 43 that He was sent by God to preach. The way this story is told in Mark 1:32-38 makes it especially clear that Jesus was called to be a *preacher* rather than a *healer*. Notice in Luke 5:14 that He told the leper that was healed to “*tell no man*.” He wasn’t interested in being known as a healer. His main work was preaching the Word of God! Sometimes His healing of people got in the way of His preaching (See Luke 6:19). So then why did He do it? Find the answer in the story of Luke 7:11-15. But Jesus came mainly to heal souls rather than bodies. Physical healing is only temporary anyway. The salvation of the soul is eternal!