

— Chapter 2 —
Embarrassed or Expunged?
Jesus and the Hemorrhaging Woman

The Big Picture:

The Hemorrhaging Woman approached Jesus for a physical healing. Jesus wanted to give her so much more; he defined her new relationship with God by calling her “Daughter.” Through faith, we have also been adopted as sons and daughters of the King. Not one part of our lives remains unchanged.

Discuss:

“While faith opens the conduit for the power of God to move, it is not the only prerequisite. God will move as he sees fit. Our belief that he will act in a certain way does not put him under some obligation to do so.”

Have you ever thought of God as a genie in a bottle, required to carry out our requests if we just believe hard enough? Or have you viewed His refusal of your request as an indication of a lack of faith on your part? How is that contrary to the character of God?

“Jesus knew what the woman was thinking. Her understanding most likely contained misconceptions. She would have walked away from the scene of her miraculous cure knowing he had physically healed her. But her debilitating problem was so much greater than her physical condition. His intention was to make her whole.”

What misconceptions might the woman have had? Why was it so important that Jesus debunk those false ideas? How might they have affected her spiritual life from that point forward? Have you had any ideas concerning your faith that eventually proved to be untrue? How did this affect you?

“The address may not have meant much to the crowd, but it meant everything to her. He had heard her thoughts. He wanted her to know she, too, was now someone’s daughter... Her physical healing was just the beginning.”

How had faith changed her relationship with God? Make a chart that lists her status “before” and “after” her faith. How do you relate to this comparison in your own relationship with God? What has changed after declaring your faith in Him?

“A house on the real estate market’s value is pretty much determined by what someone is willing to pay for it. We can say the same for our worth. Our value has been determined by what God was willing to pay: the precious blood of Christ.”

How should knowing the value God has given you affect your daily living? How should His abundant grace and mercy for you influence your treatment of others? How can seeing ourselves through God’s eyes make a difference?

Moving Forward:

1. God has provided much more than fixing what temporarily ails us. On the chart below, note God's perspective on our spiritual need and how his provision of grace changed everything.

Before Salvation	After Salvation
Romans 8:5-7	Romans 5:9-11
1 Corinthians 2:14	1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 1 John 5:20
Ephesians 2:1-3	Ephesians 2:4-10; 2 Corinthians 5:17
Romans 5:18	Hebrews 1:4; Ephesians 5:25-27

2. When we expressed belief in Jesus Christ, we were adopted into God's family. What does this new relationship with God entail? Read the following verses to find out.

Eph 1:5-14

Romans 8:14-17

Hebrews 9:15

1 Peter 1:3-4

Heb 4:15-16

Phil 1:6, 4:19

Heb 12:5-11

3. Being part of a family means inheriting habits and traditions. Jesus bore a “Family resemblance” to His Father (see Hebrews 1:3). In Matthew 5:48, Jesus exhorted his disciples: “Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” God desires us to demonstrate our family identity by imitating Him. See Colossians 3:12-17. List practical examples of how you can make choices in your conduct that will reflect your relationship with your heavenly Father.