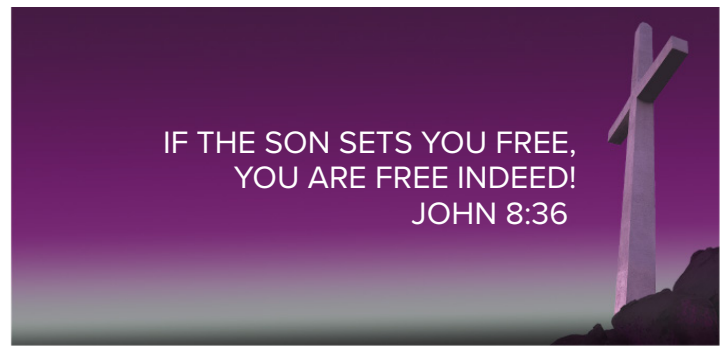


Jesus IOI

“Grace Thoughts”



A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

He . . . took her by the hand and called, saying, “Child, arise!” And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately. —Luke 8:54, 55

My young cousin has a big heart for the untouchables of society. Carla is in her early twenties; she gets together with a group of church friends her age, and they head to obscure areas of the large metropolitan city where they live to minister to the many people who live in the cold, under dark bridges. They bring blankets, food, and a big smile to the homeless, helpless, and hopeless of society.

Jesus was always attracted to the *untouchables*. Jairus’s daughter and the bleeding woman (Luke 8:41-56) have several things in common: both are female in a society that didn’t really value women; both are sick and dying; the girl was *twelve* years old, and the woman had been sick for *twelve* years. The woman and the girl’s dad both fall at Jesus’ feet; Jesus speaks to both of them about believing and being made well (saved). Surprisingly the woman and the girl are both called daughters: the girl is Jairus’s daughter (verse 42), and the woman is called Jesus’ daughter (verse 48)! One of the strongest links between both stories is the fact that they are both *untouchable*. There were many rules forbidding anybody to touch the sick or the dead. Due to her condition, no one was allowed to come in contact with the bleeding woman in order not to become unclean themselves (see Leviticus 15:19-31). Yet she touched Jesus, and instead of making Him unclean, He made her whole. By the time Jesus gets to Jairus’s house, his daughter has died (verse 49), and once again, Jesus touches the *untouchable*. Taking her hand, which would have made Him unclean, He said “‘Child, arise!’ And her spirit returned” (verses 54, 55). Perhaps you are at your wit’s end today. Or maybe you have a child or grandchild who is deemed *untouchable* by the rest of society. Amazingly, Jesus specializes in touching the untouchables. You cannot make Him unclean! On the contrary, He will make you (or your child) whole. Don’t ever be afraid to come to Jesus just as you are, no matter how *unclean, destitute, or untouchable* you may feel. This is the efficacy of Jesus: His touch gives life!