

# SERMON NOTES

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Sermon Excerpts:

## ***“Don’t Reduce Me to My Issues”***

**May 08, 2022**

***Matthew 9:20-22 (CEV) “A woman who had been bleeding for twelve years came up behind Jesus and barely touched his clothes. She had said to herself, “If I can just touch his clothes, I will get well.” Jesus turned. He saw the woman and said, “Don’t worry! You are now well because of your faith.” At that moment she was healed.”***

“A man should not be ashamed of having a strong and independent woman in his life. It doesn’t make him look any less of a man to have a woman who doesn’t listen to his every whim. Instead, it makes him look stronger and mightier, having a woman who can think for herself in his life.”

“A strong woman understands that the gifts such as logic, decisiveness, and strength are just as feminine as intuition and emotional connection. She values and uses all her gifts.” — Nancy Rathburn

- Women should have visible positions of responsibility.
- We must recognize injustice and not be afraid to name injustices against women.
- We must honor the role of mothers and the role of women overall.
- We must work to remove the barriers that hinder women.
- We must provide opportunities for married and single women alike.
- We must have the backs of women as equals when others don’t agree.

Woman in the text: She had movement with a purpose.

Greenisms:

Jesus is to be emulated and not just worshipped. Emulating Jesus does not require divinity or perfection but commitment, compassion, and courage.

Jesus accomplished what he did not because of some supernatural power unavailable to the rest of us; he accomplished what he did because of his constant dedication to the priorities of God.

The focus of this message is not physical healing but how Jesus acknowledged her dignity as a person that had been taken from her by circumstances, culture, and the community. Jesus refused to reduce her to her conditions and issues.

Because of conditioning many times, church folk describes people; we do so based on their circumstances and issues. Hopefully, we can learn to interpret the life and example of Jesus in a relevant, useful, and pertinent way.

She had an issue with her physical wellness that created and contributed to other issues. Her story reminds us that God makes people, people make or have issues, but don't reduce people to their issues because God doesn't.

In Christ, we are called to help each other find our connection and acceptance with others. We need the emotional, physical, spiritual, and financial bandwidth to support others.