Thornbury Baptist Church
Small Group Discussion Questions

Talk Date: February 22nd 2026
Talk title: Jesus Heals in Response to Faith
Passage: Matt 9:18-26
Speaker: Charlotte Royal

Discussion Questions

1. Today's passage of scripture contains two healing miracles. Jesus heals a woman who has been bleeding for 12 years and raises a young girl from the dead! In v18 and v21 we read their bold statements of faith at the feet of Jesus. What strikes you the most about the faith we see in these two stories? Is there risk involved? Is it significant that their faith involved words and action? How does this stir your own faith?

   -Their faith was IN Jesus, they were convinced he could make a difference in an impossible situation. What do we learn about who Jesus is in these verses…

2. Jesus 'The Messiah'

   By reaching for the edges/tassels of Jesus' cloak the woman was reaching for the tassels that represent an obedience to Old Testament law and living as the people of God. They represent authority and holiness.

   -How does the prophecy in Malachi 4.2 remind us of the bigger picture of who Jesus is? Why is this significant when we look at passages like the one we are reading today and the ministry of Jesus?

3. Jesus 'The Restorer'

   Jesus heals the bleeding woman. By healing her physically, Jesus restores her way of life. She will no longer be labelled ritually 'unclean'. This would be a hugely significant change after 12 years of feeling isolated and probably ashamed.

   -Why do you think it is significant Jesus calls her daughter? What do you think we can learn from Jesus' actions about our own interactions with others in our community and on our frontlines when it comes to sharing the gospel?

4. Jesus 'The Resurrection

   -In Jesus, death is not the end! By raising the girl to life, Jesus reveals he has power over death itself! It is a foretaste of his own death and resurrection.

   -When Jesus says the girl is asleep not dead we are reminded of a common Biblical metaphor of death which is that of being asleep. We read in scripture that when Jesus returns there will be another resurrection of all those who are 'sleeping' (see 1 Cor 20, 1 Cor 51-55) Death is not the end!

   -How does this reminder of the final resurrection impact how we live out our faith now? How does this inspire hope?

-Experiencing the death and loss of loved ones is a painful human experience. Psalm 34.18 reminds us that 'God is close to the broken-hearted'. This can be a sensitive topic to discuss, but if it feels appropriate within your group you might like to share your own experiences here, or pray for people in our community that come to mind.

-*Spiritually* asleep:
-Are there people in your life that are '*spiritually* asleep' to Jesus that are on your hearts? If you have newer members in your group this might also be an opportunity to share stories of how you came 'awake' to follow Jesus?

5. The bleeding woman was willing to move through the crowd towards Jesus, she was determined to reach him despite the repercussions of her doing so and opinions and reactions of those around her. How could this be a picture of our own faith? You might like to look at Hebrews 12:1-2.

   Takeaway
   What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

Spend time praying with one another in the light of your discussion.