



**YEAR OF GROWTH TEACHING ARC**  
**Mini-series Bearing Fruit in every season**  
(27 May to 24 June 2018)

**General Guidance for Small Community Leaders & Church Family Members –**

This series involves members of our church family giving extended testimony to the way God is enabling them to bear fruit in the seasons of life in which they find themselves.

We've deliberately chosen a variety, to illustrate the reality of 'seasons' in our lives

- Some (like moving to be near the grandchildren) arise naturally
- Others (such as facing illness) come unexpectedly
- Some are welcome seasons
- Others are not

But the point is that God calls us and enables us to bear fruit in EVERY season of life, whether natural or unexpected, welcome or not.

You can watch an introductory video and listen to the session as usual on the resources page on our website: [www.ccweb.org.uk/yog](http://www.ccweb.org.uk/yog)

We are inviting all small communities to use this series to encourage each member to reflect on the season of life they are in at the moment, and how God is calling and enabling them to bear fruit. We hope that everyone will have the chance to share testimony – and be prayed for – in the safety of their small community.

General Questions for the series:

- What season of life are you in?
- In what areas of life is God getting your attention – and how?
- How is God calling and enabling you to bear fruit in the season you're in?

If you're not yet in a small community, please do contact Neil ([Neil.Shepherd@ccweb.org.uk](mailto:Neil.Shepherd@ccweb.org.uk)) – you may want to gather with others informally to share testimony.

**On 22 July at both the 10 and the 5 we will be having broader testimony-based input, under the heading 'Harvest Festival', as we seek to 'harvest' the good stories of all that the Lord has been doing in our lives over this 'Year of Growth.' We would be really grateful if you could send us a 30-second taster of your testimony recorded on your phone or other device, by 6<sup>th</sup> July. You can send them to us at: [stories@ccweb.org.uk](mailto:stories@ccweb.org.uk)**

*This service will also include BAPTISMS so if anyone in your group is interested in reaffirming their baptism vows or being baptised, please speak to Neil or Janet!*

You can find specific questions posed by those giving testimony below.

**Gathering & Date** – 10 & 5, 17 June 2018

**Title** – ONE TOUCH

**Speaker(s)** – Nicola Heeley

**Reading** –

Mark 5 21-34 The Passion Translation

Two Miracles—Healing and Resurrection

<sup>21</sup>After Jesus returned from across the lake, a huge crowd of people quickly gathered around him on the shoreline. <sup>22</sup>Just then, a man saw that it was Jesus, so he pushed through the crowd and threw himself down at his feet. His name was Jairus, <sup>[a]</sup>a Jewish official who was in charge of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>He pleaded with Jesus, saying over and over, "Please come with me! My little

daughter is at the point of death, and she's only twelve years old!<sup>[b]</sup> Come and lay your hands on her and heal her and she will live!"

<sup>24</sup> Jesus went with him, and the huge crowd followed, pressing in on him from all sides.

<sup>25</sup> Now, in the crowd that day was a woman who had suffered horribly from continual bleeding for twelve years.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>26</sup> She had endured a great deal under the care of various doctors, yet in spite of spending all she had on their treatments, she was not getting better, but worse. <sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus' healing power, she pushed through the crowd and came up from behind him and touched his prayer shawl.<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>28</sup> For she kept saying to herself, "If only I could touch his clothes, I know I will be healed."<sup>[e]</sup> <sup>29</sup> As soon as her hand touched him, her bleeding immediately stopped! She knew it, for she could feel her body instantly being healed of her disease!

<sup>30</sup> Jesus knew at once that someone had touched him, for he felt the power that always surged around him<sup>[f]</sup> had passed through him for someone to be healed. He turned and spoke to the crowd, saying, "*Who touched my clothes?*"<sup>[g]</sup>

<sup>31</sup> His disciples answered, "What do you mean, who touched you? Look at this huge crowd—they're all pressing up against you."

<sup>32</sup> But Jesus' eyes swept across the crowd, looking for the one who had touched him for healing.

<sup>33</sup> When the woman who experienced this miracle<sup>[h]</sup> realized what had happened to her, she came before him, trembling with fear, and threw herself down at his feet, *saying, "I was the one who touched you."* And she told him her story of what had just happened.

<sup>34</sup> Then Jesus said to her, "*Daughter, because you **dared to believe**, your faith has healed you. Go with peace in your heart, and be free from your suffering!*"

**Main message of this talk in one sentence –**

*A prolonged season in life which brought both unwelcome & unexpected circumstances.*

*A season primarily marked by a decade of struggles, pain & difficulty.*

*A season of learning to walk together with God on the road marked with suffering.*

*A season of discovery; coming to know God more fully as the God of hope, peace, comfort & power.*

*A season where the Sovereignty & Faithfulness of God would prevail, turning battle cries into victories won.*

**Questions –**

1. As you read through the passage, are there any words or phrases that stand out for you? Are you able to identify with the woman in any way?
2. *Romans 12:15: Calls us to "rejoice with those who rejoice & weep with those who weep"*. How do we persevere with this challenge when we don't see immediate answers to our prayers for others, and their pain & suffering endures for months or even years?
3. Are there any situations in your life currently which seem without hope and require "*One Touch*" from the Lord?
4. Can you identify any "*I can't cope*" lies in your life presently? Are you able to hand them to God for transformation through His redeeming love?
5. Can you "*dare to believe*" in the goodness of God for those seemingly desperate circumstances....either in your own life or perhaps that of others?