

# TOUCH: The Touch of Jesus

## Intro

Our theme this year is GO FIRST! Last year we learned how to REACH the lost, the broken and the hurting. This year we will build upon that foundation to become people of great faith and boldness. In order to learn how to GO FIRST we must first study the greatest One of them all: Jesus Christ.

KEY THEME VERSE: **Matthew 28:19**, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”*

Jesus was a man of action, wisdom and momentum. When He started His ministry, He never stopped. When He stopped for some water, His life was a revelation to the Samaritan woman. Even while on the cross, His life was a testimony to the thief on the cross (Luke 23:42).

We need to follow His footsteps and GO FIRST!

## 1. Jesus Touched the Lost, Sick & Broken

**Matthew 8:1-4**, *“When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. 2 A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”*

**3** *Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. 4 Then Jesus said to him, “See that you don’t tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”*

- **Jesus is moved by love for the leper.**

- A leper was untouchable, unclean and according to Jewish custom had been separated from the community. They were the outcasts.
- There is no illness, no sickness, no brokenness, no despair, no loneliness, no shame that is so powerful and so strong that the Lord of all cannot say “GO!” and it must go! Immediately! Such is the power of Jesus!

- Divine love when coupled with divine power cannot help but heal!
- Jesus is willing to touch you.
- Jesus is willing to heal you!
- Jesus is willing to restore you!

**The leper received the love and healing of Jesus because:**

- He came
- He knelt
- He asked

**It is time to come to Jesus. It is time to kneel before Jesus. It is time to ask Jesus to touch you.**

## Prayer

- Pray for the release of Jesus' great love into each and every heart, mind, and body.
- Pray for deliverance and healing.
- Let the touch of Jesus minister to all.
- Journey into God's heart:
  - Imagine God's love pouring like a waterfall.
  - Step into the waterfall and put your hands out like you're receiving a gift.
  - Open your heart and mind and let His love pour in and fill you.
  - Now ask Him to fill you more until you're overflowing.
  - Ask the Holy Spirit to show how much God loves you.
  - Ask the Holy Spirit to show how their life is worth the great price Jesus paid.
- Lead them in the Salvation prayer.
- Spend time in worship and prayer allowing for a great touch of the Holy Spirit.

## Communion

- Receive communion together.
- **Luke 22:19-20**, "And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." **20** Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.

## Action

- This week, look for opportunities to GO and touch people with the love of Jesus.
- On Saturday 1 April we will have our **LIFE CONNECT Bread of Life or Prayer Walk**.