

# FROM Faith 2 Faith

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Merry Christmas

## Touching Jesus

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## *Hi Partners and Friends*

*Wow here we are into December already. We want to wish each of you a*

*Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Happy New Year.*

*This has been a year of stepping out and growth for us. We are thankful that our God has taken care of us and that we are increasing more and more.*

*We were able to go to our first KCM Ministers conference in January which we really enjoyed. We hosted and taught 3 more COREcourses this year – Active Believing Getting Results, Money Follows Value and A Servant's Heart.*

*Our JLM website was updated the beginning of the year and now the AFC site was updated just this month. We also stepped out and started videoing our Sunday service messages and have added them to our JLM website as well as YouTube. We started our youth ministry the end of November called **EN-COUN-TER** (an unexpected experience or meeting) every other Sunday morning. May we all encounter God's goodness in our lives.*

*Our 4<sup>th</sup> book was published in September called "Healing is God's Idea" and it has been a blessing as we get testimonies and feedback from it.*

*We hosted our first Turning Point Conference in Estevan SK the end of September and had a glorious time and thank God for all He accomplished there with those precious people.*

*We are living in a time where we must grow, step up and step out in order to fulfill our God given assignments, our destiny written in heaven. So, know as the Lord is leading you we are praying for you also to be the right person in the right place at the right time.*

*We love you & God Bless*

***Jeff & Audrey***



**Jeff Loewen  
Ministries**

Proclaiming the Word of Faith unto Soteria - Rom. 10:8-13



*By Jeff Loewen*

Have you ever touched a cow's tongue or ate an oyster? They feel weird and strange, don't they? The cow tongue is like sandpaper and the oyster is soft and squishy – not that appetizing to some.

We live in a world of touch and feel with our touch screen phones, tablets and computer. There are touch screen fridges now too.

The bible tells us in Hebrews 4:15 KJV

*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

Here we see that Jesus can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities or weaknesses – whatever they might be. Fear, sickness, lack, confusion, rejection and temptation.

So, in a world of touch and feel it is good news and comforting to know that Jesus has been where we are and won the victory. As we lean into Him and His Word we too can overcome and be victorious.

Just because Jesus is touched with the feeling of our infirmities or weaknesses does not mean we automatically overcome. What it does mean is He is our hero, our example and the source of our victory.

Where ever we find ourselves, He is our answer and if we learn to touch Him we can win. I want to share 3 areas with which we touch Jesus.

We touch Jesus with OUR HUNGER. We are to know what we want.

Matt 5:6 NKJV

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.*

They that hunger and thirst to be right with Him and for what is right shall be filled. We are to desire to be right with Him, our healer, our provider, our wisdom and our life.

Matt 20:29-36 NKJV

*Now as they went out of Jericho, a great multitude followed Him. And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!" Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!" So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened." So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.*

We see here the story of two men who were hungry for Jesus and what He had and refused to allow others to get them to let go of their freedom.

They knew what they wanted and who had it. Jesus asked them what they wanted – do you know what you want? Did you notice they got what they wanted? They got what they wanted because they believed they would receive from Jesus what they hungered for.

Your desire for the healer and healing, the provider and provision, the savior and salvation is good. In 3 John 2 scripture tells us *"I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers."*

First, we touch Him with Our Hunger by knowing what we want.

Next, we touch Him with OUR SIMPLICITY by coming to Jesus as we are.

In Mark 1 verses 40-42 we see a leper come to Jesus and was open and honest with Him.

*Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.*

He said, "I know You can but will You?" As he came to Jesus and touched Him with his simplicity Jesus reached out and touched him and said "Yes, be cleansed" and immediately the leprosy left him.

If you read the event in Mark 9:20-27 you will see a father come to Jesus to get his son delivered. In his simplicity he touched Jesus with his words – *"But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."*

Notice he didn't receive just because he came to Jesus with his simplicity and you may not either but he did position himself for more direction, so he could receive. We come to Him as we are and He will help us to the next step.

Jesus said, *"If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."* Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, *"Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"*

Here is the simplicity of this story – the father needed help and asked or begged for help. Jesus doesn't respond to begging because God the Father does not respond to begging – begging is not faith.

Jesus had to position the man in faith for him to receive. So, He told him if he could believe, all things are possible to the believing one not the begging one.

With this corrective tip from Jesus the father in simplicity said, "I believe, help my unbelief." In other words, I believe with my heart but my head or thinking is getting in the way.

If we can find the promise in the Word we have grounds to believe. The Holy Spirit said through the apostle Paul in 2 Cor 1:20 –

*For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.*

All the promises of God are yes and amen. This means forgiveness is yes, healing is yes, prosperity is yes, the Holy Spirit is yes, signs and wonders are yes, peace is yes, joy is yes and love is yes.

All the promises of God to us are yes so we can confidently say amen or so be it unto me according to Your Word. It is yes so I take it as mine.

So, we touch Jesus with Our Hunger and with Our Simplicity and thirdly with the Hand of Faith.

We touch Him with OUR HAND OF FAITH and not just throng Him.

In Mark 5:25-34 we read about the woman with the issue of blood. She heard of Jesus and said and kept saying if she touched the hem of His clothes she would be healed. After saying it and saying it and saying it, it finally got so strong in her that she had to get dressed and leave the house and go find Jesus.

She found Him and touched Him and she felt in her body that she was healed.

Jesus stopped in His tracks and asked who touched Him because He felt the power get pulled out of Him. Someone yanked the power out of Him and He wanted to hear the testimony.

Verse 31 reveals to us that no one thronging Him was healed.

*But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"*

It is the touch of faith that releases the power in our lives. The throngers “know” but those of faith “believe and do.”

We see Martha a friend of Jesus come to Him after her brother had just died in John 11 and said, “I know” “I know” (vs 22, 24) but Jesus had to get her into faith for her to receive her brother raised from the dead.

John 11:24-25 KJV

*Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?*

Jesus spoke the Word, the will of God and then asked her the all-important question – do you believe this? Her response determines whether Lazarus lives or not. She said “yes Lord I believe.” She touched Jesus with the hand of faith.

When Jesus asked to have the stone rolled away she stumbled but he reminded her in verse 40 –

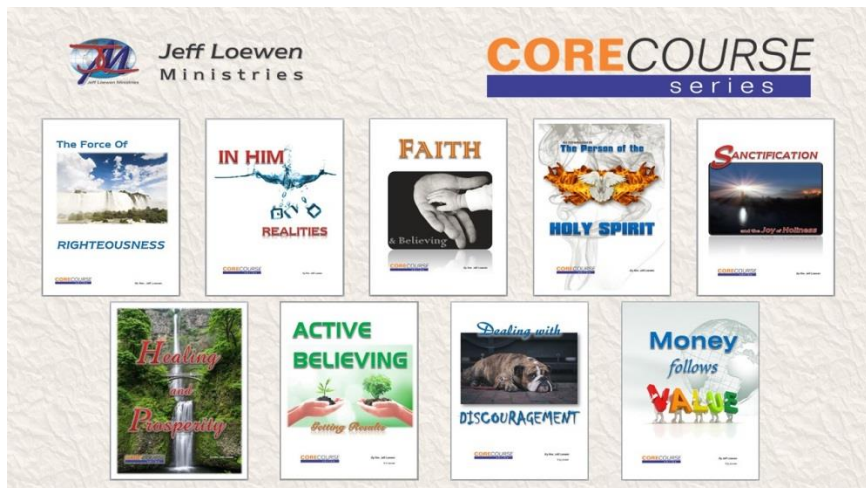
*Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?”*

He brought her right back to faith in God and she thought “oh ya, that’s right.” She then had them roll the stone away and Jesus called Lazarus forth and raised him from the dead.

Whatever area of need we have if we touch Jesus with our hand of faith the power will be released also.

Make the choice to touch Jesus with your Hunger (know what you want), and with your Simplicity (come to Jesus as you are), and (don’t just throng Him) but touch Him with the hand of faith and receive your answer.

\* \*\*\* CHRISTMAS SALE \*\*\* \*



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# ARE YOU LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT?

*By Audrey Loewen*

The answer to a million and more questions is 'Be led.' There are many things in this world that can lead us but the question is, "Is that the right way? Is that the direction I should go?" We can be led by circumstances, appearances, the economy, other people's opinions or our own opinion but is that the right way to make decisions? God's will for us is to know the right way to go so He has sent the Holy Spirit to help us. The Holy Spirit knows the perfect will of God for us and can and will give us the answers we need if we will listen for His answers.

Since the beginning of time, God has desired to have a personal relationship with people, His creation, His family. He has only wanted the best for us and desired our success and fruitfulness on this earth. Our blessing was not just for heaven, it was supposed to cover the whole earth. However, once sin entered the equation, man no longer had the same spirit as God and has struggled since to be one with His Spirit and to hear Him perfectly. God's will has always been that everyone would have the ability to follow and hear from Him perfectly and therefore curtail the devil's plans of defeat for our lives. Jesus' mom explained it perfectly in John 2:5 when she said whatever He tells you to do, do it. Things have always worked out when I have followed the Lord's instructions, never once has He missed it. But when I have missed following, boy have things not turned out well. The good news though is that anyone who seeks the Lord with their whole heart will find Him. "But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and with all your soul"

(Deuteronomy 4:29 NKJV). However, with the loss of God's Spirit inside of us during the fall, people can become deceived looking for the right answer by using the outward circumstances and situations to find the answers for their lives.

The bible has many general answers but when it comes to the exact details of your life, what you should do with your life, who you should marry, where you should live etc. you will not find the exact specific answer for you in your book of the bible. While we can be aware of signs and events, we are not to seek after those things in order to determine God's will for each of our lives. People are tempted to be like Gideon in the Old Testament and say "God if You do such and such, then I will know this is or isn't Your will or open this door or close this door or, or, etc." The problem with these types of prayers is that all of the answers are outside of our spirits. God is not the only one who has access to the physical world around us. The devil has just as much access in the physical realm and can make things happen or not happen as well. Gideon knew he was treading on dangerous ground as he asked God to not be mad at him for this type of "fleece" prayer. God is merciful and Gideon did not have access to the whole bible that we do today and God will deal mercifully with baby Christians but these prayers do not usually go well. It might work once or twice but God really wants you to learn how to follow His Holy Spirit inside of you. Probably all of us have done this at some time or other, I laugh when I think about the one I did - "God, have so and so give me a book if he is the one I am to marry!" Oh my, thank God for His mercy, and no that was not the one I was to marry!

Instead Jesus told us in John 14: 16-17 "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you." Verse 26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and brings to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

John 16:13 “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and he will tell you things to come” (NKJV)

Thank God that Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to be our guide, to live on the inside of us. Once you are born again, you have God’s Spirit on the inside of you and then you can be baptized in the Holy Spirit so that you have access to His power. Acts 1:8 says “you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you” (NKJV). Acts 2:4 says “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (NKJV). In Mark 16, part of Jesus’ last words included “they will speak with new tongues.”

Praise God for giving us the ability to pray His perfect will through the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26-27). When I was praying about who was to be my husband, I did not have much to go on. However I did know that I wanted to know who he was by the Holy Spirit **and** I wanted him to know that I was the right one by the Holy Spirit. It is way too easy for people to make suggestions and try to match make, if they are led by the Holy Spirit they can be a help but really we each just need to know for ourselves without suggestions from well-meaning people.

Paul told us in 1 Corinthians 14:2 “For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries” (NKJV). He also said later in the same chapter vs. 18 that “I thank God that I speak with tongues more than you all” (NKJV). Considering Paul wrote about 2/3 of the New Testament, I think we can see how valuable it is to pray out the mysteries through the Holy Spirit. I knew God had said my future husband wasn’t who I thought he was as in the type of person so I had to really be open to the Holy Spirit to show me then what type of person I was believing for. Then the Holy Spirit gave me another clue - I was called to be a pastor’s wife, so then I knew that I needed a pastoral minded man. I was not sure if he would

already be in full time church ministry or if he would after we were married but I knew when I heard from the Holy Spirit that it would be right and that we would know God's plan and will. So truly God answered my heart's desire about hearing from the Holy Spirit or else He led me to want that as that was exactly what needed to happen.

When my husband Jeff came to work at my local church, my first thought was "oh great, he's single and everyone will think we should get together." At the time I was seeking the Lord about someone else who was a potential match so I was not interested in Jeff. But the Lord changed my attitude and my heart within a few weeks. I really started to fall for this guy and the Holy Spirit just made it so clear to me on the inside, deep down inside I knew! The next problem however was that he did not know. So it was really obvious I really liked this guy and equally obvious he had no interest in me! So for several months nothing happened. It really felt unbearable because every week at church I would see this guy that it felt like I had a supernatural love for and he had no idea what God had placed in my spirit and my heart. So the answer to that is to keep praying things out in the Holy Ghost and believing God for His timing and ability to convey the plan! I also seriously considered leaving the church and going elsewhere to avoid him as well, however, having been taught so well about following the Lord's instructions i.e.: where I am to be - including which church, how long I am to stay, showing oneself faithful, etc., I knew that I couldn't just leave the place where I was planted by the Lord. If He really is Lord in our lives, then we need to learn to be where He wants us, stay where He plants us and do not leave unless He directs us - 1 Corinthians 12:18 "But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased" (NKJV). He has reasons for us being where we are and we don't have as much say in it as we might think we do - 2 Timothy 2:3 "You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus" (NKJV). Soldiers do not make their own orders - they go where they are told to go and leave when they are told to leave. I also knew by the Holy Ghost that I could not ask him out for coffee or pursue opportunities to hang out together.

This is really important. You can throw a wrench in God’s plans by trying to orchestrate things yourself. You can also turn someone off by pursuing them when they do not want to be pursued. It is also really important to know that God has given us all a free will and it is still up to each of us to obey so just because God has said that so and so would be the best match does not mean that God will over ride their will if they are not willing. So again just stay faithful and pray, pray much in the Holy Spirit.

At one point I just had had enough, I had reached the end of my faith stand so I said to God “What are You going to do about this?” And glory to God that night Jeff called me at home to ask me out for coffee! Now the rest of the story is that God had been working on Jeff and speaking to him weeks prior to that trying to get him to cooperate but again the answer was the Holy Spirit leading, guiding and directing the way. So the Lord did answer me by leading and directing us both by the Holy Spirit until we fulfilled His plan.

Praying out details in the Holy Spirit is awesome. You get the exact perfect answer every time if you are willing to put in the time it takes to hear from heaven. God is more than willing to show us the way, we just have to pursue Him and His answer. So be led and enjoy the victory each and every time.



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