



# JESUS ON THE ROAD

## The Touch of God

Week of April 24, 2016

Share Your Experience This Week #SevernRun

These discussion questions can be used the week following the message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your Connect Group discussions.

### Message Recap:

#### Read Matthew 9:18-34

Your story has touched the heart of God so deeply that he reaches out to you—to heal you and change you. Our initial reaction to God's touch is to recoil. Maybe because we are ignorant, or arrogant, hopeless, or full of fear. Today is the day to lean in to God because he wants to redeem you and heal you with the touch of Jesus. So instead of backing away, change your perspective and reach back to God's hand. When you look for satisfaction in something besides Jesus, it only darkens your life and makes it worse. It's time to choose a new reality. A reality that lives in the presence of Jesus, feeling the touch of God, and seeing the great things that he will do as a result of just a little bit of faith.

### Pray

Father forgive me for backing away from you when you reach out to me. Help me learn how to lean in to you, to reach out for you, and to take the action. Help me be the light that brings others out of the darkness and closer to you. Help me out of my rut and show me how to get on the road with you.

### Getting Started

- People touch our lives all the time; who has recently touched your life? How?
- What is your favorite I Am statement from Jesus, and why it is meaningful to you? (Try John 6:35, 8:12, 10:9, 11:25, 14:6)

### Listening Deeply

1. Has there ever been a time when you felt God reach out for you but you withdrew? Share about it with your group.
2. What is your most common initial reaction to the touch of God? Ignorance, arrogance, hopelessness, or fear?
3. Read Matthew 9:18-34. Which story of the touch of God in this passage resonates the most with you? Why?
4. What do you focus on more in your life? Your circumstances or on what God can do? Which is easier?
5. How does changing our interpretation change our reaction to the touch of God? Can you share an example of how changing your interpretation of something helped you see God more clearly?
6. We get to choose our reality! Where do you need God's touch in your life? Do you believe he is able to do this? *According to your faith it will be done for you. (Matthew 9:28-29)*

### Living Wide in Jesus

Now is the time to make your move! Get out of your rut and take some action. Stop focusing on the hard circumstances of life. Instead, let Jesus be real. He is reaching out to you. Reach back. Connect with Jesus. Let him redeem you. Let him heal you. Make your move by:

- Refusing to make peace with the passive.
- Taking the initiative of faith and choose to respond positively to what God has already done.
- Seek God creatively! Get out of the rut and routine of religion.
- Go hard after Jesus until his touch changes everything in your life.
- Then reach out to the broken people in your life.