sermon notes

Introduction:

In these weeks leading up to Easter, we want to take a closer look at Jesus, and understand how He interacted with people to more appreciate how interacts with us. We are going to discover Jesus, who cares for and deeply loves each one of us.

"Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save…"

Isaiah 59:1 NKJV

"Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross."

Philippians 2:6-8 NLT

"Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father…'"

John 14:9 NKJV

The Touch of Jesus

1. **Matthew 8:1 - Jesus touches a Leper**
2. **Matthew 8:14 - Jesus touches Peter's mother-in-law**
3. **Matthew 17:7 - Jesus touches fear filled disciples**
4. **Mark 7:31 - Jesus touches a deaf man**
5. **Mark 10:13 - Jesus touches the children**
6. **Luke 7:14 -Jesus touches a casket**
7. **Luke 22:51 -Jesus touches a soldier**

Consider and Discuss

- Discuss the rejection and isolation the Leper must have felt in his life. What do you think it feels like to be "untouchable".

- Have you ever experienced something painful in your life that caused you to wonder if God had cursed you, or was punishing you? How did you overcome that wrong thinking? Discuss with the group the importance of the touch of Jesus that reassures us of His grace and love in overcoming wrong thinking about how Jesus feels about us.

- Use these scriptures to help in discussion: Romans 5:8, Romans 8:35-39

- Choose one of the "touches of Jesus" that you related to and discuss with the group how that has made your relationship with Jesus even closer.

- Was there a "touch of Jesus" that you related to by realizing you need and want that specific touch? Why not ask your group for prayer and believe that Jesus is in the room right now ready to respond to your request.

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