

## ***Theme for 2020***

### **I AM WHAT ‘YOU’ SEE!**

#### **‘LORD, Open My Eyes, Help Me Believe, I Am What YOU See.’**

*“Your eyes are windows into your body. If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light... Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother’s womb. I thank you, High God—you’re breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation! You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you. The days of my life all prepared before I’d even lived one day. Your thoughts—how rare, how beautiful! God, I’ll never comprehend them! I couldn’t even begin to count them—any more than I could count the sand of the sea. Oh, let me rise in the morning and live always with you.”*

**Matthew 6:22 (MSG); Psalm 139:13-18 (MSG)**



#### ***This Week’s Thought – February 2, 2020***

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*“For everyone who keeps on asking [persistently], receives; and he who keeps on seeking [persistently], finds; and to him who keeps on knocking [persistently], the door will be opened.”*  
Luke 11:10 Amplified Bible (AMP)

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Have you ever felt like giving up on prayer because you’ve wrestled so long with a wish, desire or heartfelt petition that hasn’t been granted? If so, you’re not alone. Allow me to encourage you however, from that incredible story in Mark 5 (Vv.25-32) that has encouraged me often as well.

Of course, you’ll recall that there is a woman who is sick. She has been bleeding constantly for 12 years. Many doctors try to help her, but she is only getting worse and she has spent everything she has to pay for her medical treatment. Yet, she still has hope that things can change for her. She has heard about Jesus and so when He comes through a crowd where she is, she walks up behind Him and thinks, *“If I can just touch His robe, I will be healed.”* So, she touches His robe, and boom! She is immediately healed!

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Here is why I find this story so encouraging, because even after 12 long years of suffering, the woman still deeply desired to be healed. This is incredible, because after a long period of struggle and perceived ‘unanswered prayer’, we may give into despair and discouragement. We may think, *“God hasn’t answered yet. I guess I am just meant to suffer.”* But that is not what this woman did.

Even after so many years of illness, she still believed her life could change (Mark 5:28). She didn’t give in to cynicism, despair, or discouragement. She still believed there was an answer for her problem. Can you imagine if she had stayed home even though she had heard about Jesus because she thought, *“It’s just no use”*? She wouldn’t have received healing.

Her faith and her petition for God to heal her, which manifested when she touched His robe, activated God’s loving power—and her life was permanently changed. Okay, so what about you? Have you given up because you think it’s just no use? I encourage you not to allow discouragement to rule you. Grab onto faith and ask once more.

*“One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?”* (John 5:5-6)

**“I am who You say I am! I am God’s workmanship, created in Christ unto good works. (Ephesians 2:10) I am an ambassador for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20). I am part of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a purchased people (1 Peter 2:9). I am greatly loved by God (Ephesians 2:4; Colossians 3:12). I AM WHAT ‘YOU’SEE!”**

**Application:** There are times when the Lord wants us to press through a problem and He will sustain us. There are other times He wants to liberate, heal, or deliver us. Sometimes we don’t know which it is unless we continue to ask for what we desire. Is it time for you to lay down discouragement and ask God again for Him to help you? If so, do that today!

**Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Dear God, I come to You in total expectation of the very best You have to offer. I believe in miracles because I believe in You. I do not come to You in desperation, but in gratitude and excitement of the result given to me ahead of any need. I live my moments, day by day, in positive expectation and overflowing gratitude as I witness and take part in the miraculous results. I am grateful and thankful for every moment spent in Your glorious Presence. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”**

*“And then God answered: “Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what’s coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn’t lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It’s on its way. It will come right on time.”* Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King