

**"WITH THE RUSH OF THE WIND, I TOUCH YOU FIRST!"**  
**JUNE 27, 2021 - THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**LAMENTATIONS 3:22-33; 2 CORINTHIANS 8:7-15; MARK 5:21-43**  
**Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.**

**Most people these days are looking for a little more energy, a little more jump in their step, a little more power. These days you can find `quick energy drinks' and `power bars' to give you a boost. What gives you real energy, real power? What restores your fire, energy, and spirit? What restores your soul, your faith? In today's Gospel, a man looks for his daughter to be healed, and a woman looks for her body to be restored. The man knew the power of Jesus' touch. The woman knew the power in simply touching Jesus' garments. Both people had been touched by the rush of The Wind in Jesus, - his message, ministry, presence, grace - they knew where to get more. As our personal walks of discipleship and devotion go forward, let us go forward in the rush of The Wind, trusting all we long for is a touch away, trusting The One who touches us first!**

1. Where do you get your power and energy? Where do you get energy and power for your spirit, soul, and faith? When you feel empty, feel the rush of The Wind, trusting who touches you first! Mark 5:30
  
2. Let us forever call upon and reach out to the One who with the rush of The Wind reaches out to us first, touching us first!
  - A. God in Jesus touches us first with his power, as individuals and as disciples. Lamentations 3:22-26; Mark 5:22, 27
    - i. If we cannot always feel the power of Jesus' touch, we can reach out to him, he is that close, that powerful.
    - ii. Like the leader of the synagogue, like the woman, we know where we can get more, who has all we need.
  
  - B. With the rush of The Wind, God in Jesus touches us first with his power to restore what God alone created, even though at times we are tired and empty and broken in our bodies, spirits, souls, and faith. Lamentations 3:22-23; Mark 5:23,28,35,41

- C. With the rush of The Wind, God in Jesus touches us first with his power as God's people 'to make God and neighbor first.' 2 Corinthians 8:7-12
- i. God has touched us first, putting much in our care.
  - ii. God has touched us first, calling us to take next steps.
  - iii. God has touched us first, gracing us, keeping us faithful.
  - iv. The gift is acceptable according to what we have, not according to what we do not have.
3. With the rush of The Wind, God's power in Jesus, truly touches us more than we touch him. Today and always, let us trust healing and hope and grace and reassurance, and all we long for, are only a touch away, faithfully given to us in the power and love of the One who touches us first!  
Lamentations 3:22-23; 2 Corinthians 8:9; Mark 5:30-31,41