

## Week 2 All Age Luke in Lent material : Luke 8.40-56

### Equipment:

Where's Wally book, or laptop with the website on  
Cross  
Circles/head shapes  
Piece of cloth (optional)  
Pens  
Glue if you want to stick hats on

4.25 – 4.35

10 mins

**Gathering activity** (refreshments could be served while you do this. A CD could be played quietly in the background.)

“Where’s Wally?”

Have a look at a Where’s Wally book/pictures together. These have large crowds of people and a bobble hated Wally in the midst of them. Available to browse online at [www.findwally.co.uk](http://www.findwally.co.uk) and go to the widget ([www.findwally.co.uk/widget.html](http://www.findwally.co.uk/widget.html))

See if you can find Wally and some of the other things asked for. You can get these on birthday cards now too.

Discussion Question:

Have you ever been somewhere where there were lots of people? Why were they there? What was it like?

The Bible story we are looking at today has a huge crowd in it.

Either repeat the stone reflection from last week or:

### Gathering prayer

What sort of day have you had?

Draw a face on the face outlines (where’s wally style hat or not) which describes your day.

### Reflection

Gather around the cross

Jesus said “<sup>6</sup> Aren't five sparrows sold for two pennies? But God does not forget even one of them. In fact, he even counts every hair on your head! So don't be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.” God knows you. (pause) God is here. (pause)

Get everyone to place their faces around the cross. You could use the simple words:

**“Jesus, I am here.  
You know my name.”**

4.35 – 4.50

15 min

## **Group discussion & reading.** (refreshments if not done already)

Have you ever been ill? What's the longest you've ever been ill for? The Bible story is about a big crowd and someone who had been ill for a long time.

Listen to the story. You might like to shut your eyes and imagine what it would have been like to be part of the story.

Read Luke 8.40-48. An accessible version like the Contemporary English Version, New International Readers' Version, Good News version are mostly OK. Beware "Haemorrhaging" and synagogue as words in some translations which might need explanation. Also be aware of fears/anxieties about a sickness where you can't stop bleeding and also that some women might be sensitive about the story.

- 🔗 Who are the people in the story? What are they doing? How are they feeling?
- 🔗 Why do you think there were so many people wanting to see Jesus?
- 🔗 How would it feel to be ill for 12 years? That's as long as the sick girl had been alive.

In the time that this story happened, people may have tried to avoid touching the woman or letting her near them as they were often very careful about people who were bleeding. Sometimes people who had touched someone who was bleeding weren't allowed to take part in normal daily activities.

- 🔗 How do you think the woman might have felt to have people avoiding her all the time?
- 🔗 Why did the woman want to touch Jesus' robe? (a robe is a bit like a coat)
- 🔗 Why do you think she sneaked up to Jesus and just touched his robe instead of asking him to make her better?
- 🔗 What happened when she touched his robe? What did Jesus do?

Discussing further together or for quiet reflection

The woman may have thought Jesus wouldn't want to have anything to do with her, but Jesus cared about her.

- 🔗 Think about the problems you have. Do you ever think Jesus isn't interested in you?
- 🔗 Does this story help you think Jesus is interested in you?

## **Game, Response and prayer**

Game can be optional depending on your group.

If appropriate for your group, play a game of "tail tag" – get everyone to tuck a long strip of toilet roll into their waistband to make a tail which drags on the floor. You have to try to stand on each other's tails without getting yours stood on. The winner is the last one with a tail

Or

"orchestra"

One person goes out of the room. One person left in the room is chosen to conduct the orchestra, and everyone must copy what ever actions they are doing, which can be as silly as you like. Once started the other volunteer is brought back in and have to guess who is conducting.

Prayer: Think of people you know who are ill, or of types of illnesses that make people sick for a long time. Either write their names on the edge of a piece of cloth, like they are

touching Jesus' robe as in the story or draw some faces on more bits of paper and bring them to the cross together. People could speak prayers out or pray silently.

You could use this prayer:

Thank you God that you love each one of us. thank you god that we are all important to you. Please help all the people we have been thinking about. May they know you love them. Please make them well.

(Pause)

Please help us to know you care about each one of us, even if sometimes we think no one does care.

Amen

You could end with these words

**Jesus, we are here.  
You know our names.**

Jesus, I am here.  
You know my name.

Jesus, we are here.  
You know our names.



