**What is it about Jesus? His Affirming Approachability**

David Langford writes : “If we truly believe that Jesus was the son of God and was man who never sinned but lived a perfect life (Hebrews 4:15), then one of the most amazing qualities of Jesus was how comfortable it apparently was for people to approach him, even people who were known to be sinners and who would ordinarily hesitate to approach religious leaders. It is remarkable how often scripture tells about people approaching Jesus.

What is your favorite Gospel story of a person approaching Jesus? What happen when they came to Jesus?

**Read Luke 8:42b-48**

How does this story demonstrate the approachability of Jesus? Langford says that this woman would be unclean under Jewish Law.

Why did the woman want to touch Jesus? Whynot just ask him for healing?

Why do you think Jesus asked her to reveal herself? For his sake or her sake?

 How did the woman feel after being ‘found out’?

How does Jesus acceptance of her touch speak to his approachability?

Why did the woman want to touch Jesus?

**Read Luke 7:36-50**

How did Jesus use his parable to get Simon to tell the truth about gratefulness and forgiveness?

How did he apply that to Simon and the sinful women?

What are some lessons you think Jesus wants us to learn from this story?

**Read Luke 5:4-11**

Why did Peter fall at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!”?

How does this understanding of Jesus by Peter compare with the sinful woman’s understanding of Jesus?

How do you think Peter and the sinful women’s understanding differ from that of Simon the Pharisee?

Discuss the paradoxical statements:

1. “To truly draw near to Jesus, you have to realize how far away he is.”
2. “We will never see our sin until we see the Sinless One.”

Can you think of a time when you truly begin saw Jesus, or at least began to see him in a way that made a difference in the way you saw yourself and your life?