Study

Read the text twice

Look at the painting

Read the Painting Caption

Questions

What jumps off the page at you? *FGP*

List what the text tells us about the woman.

3s/FB

List what the text tells us about the words and actions of Jesus 3s/FB

What do the words and actions of Jesus reveal? FGP/GPS

The painting caption for The Hem of His Garment says the artist, "Chose to paint this woman, not just meekly touching, but hanging on to Jesus." What is your experience of "hanging onto Jesus" when no-one else can help you?

3s/FB

"In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed." (v47) How important is our public testimony of what Jesus has done for us?

FGP

Study Key

3s / FB - Groups of 3 with feedback to whole group

FGP - Full Group

GPS - Larger groups of 6 (if desired)



The Project

The Gospel Sketchbook is a three-year project based in St George's Tron, Church, Glasgow, in which Artist in Residence Iain Campbell is painting 24 canvases from Luke's Gospel, one for each chapter.

Key to each painting is reflecting on the Biblical text and how it might apply to contemporary Glasgow.

The Study

The following Bible Study considers both the Biblical text and the painting on which it is based, encouraging participants to think about how to apply the Biblical text to their context. The study is designed to be used with *The Portrait Gospel*, a special edition of Luke's Gospel that features Our Last Supper on the cover, the first canvas painted as part of this project.

Conversations Bible Study

Each of the individual studies uses the Conversations style. Conversations is a method of Bible study developed by the Scottish Bible Society and the Contextual Bible Study Group. Conversations seeks to encourage people to actively engage with the Bible and apply it to life.

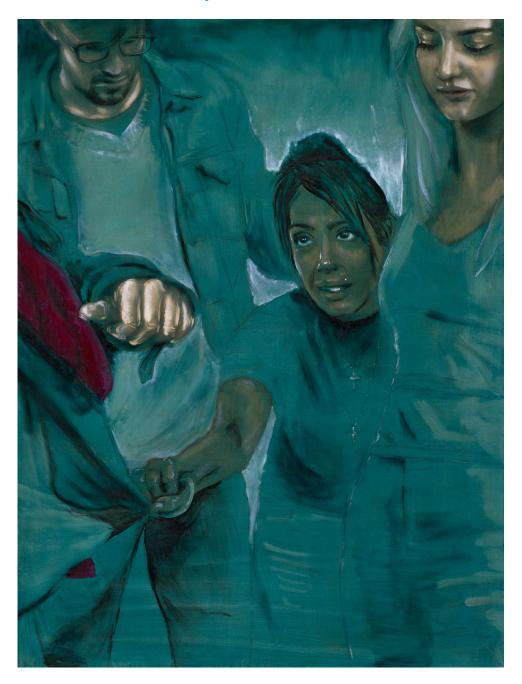
The questions are designed to stimulate conversation within groups where people may have varying backgrounds and knowledge of the Bible. You will notice a similar pattern of questions used throughout the studies. All of the questions are 'open' questions which don't presume an answer but instead invite people to reflect personally on the text. The first question is always, "What jumps off the page at you?" – an opportunity for people to begin to share their thoughts on a passage. Then there are 'listing' questions that encourage a closer reading of the text, 'theological' questions that seek to understand the meaning, and finally 'contextual' questions that begin to apply the text to life.

We hope you find this a refreshing and stimulating way to study the Bible. More Bible study resources that utilise the

Conversations method can be found at: scottishbiblesociety.org/equip

The Hem of His Garment

Study 8 • Luke 8:42-48



Text: Luke 8:42-48 Page 42 of The Portrait Gospel

⁴²As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. ⁴³ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. ⁴⁴ She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.

45 'Who touched me?' Jesus asked.

When they all denied it, Peter said, 'Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you.'

⁴⁶ But Jesus said, 'Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me.'

⁴⁷ Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. ⁴⁸ Then he said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.'

Painting Caption

This painting recreates the moment when a woman, desperate for healing physically and socially, seizes the moment at hand and reaches out to Jesus. Iain chose to paint this woman, not just meekly touching, but hanging on to Jesus.

The models for this painting all work in The Wild Olive Tree café, situated inside St George's Tron Church of Scotland. The model portraying the woman who was healed was chosen because of her story of restoration and her testimony of what Iesus has done for her.