

A Touch of Love

Physical touch is one of the [5 Love Languages](#) identified by author Gary Chapman. For some people, nothing speaks of love more deeply than appropriate touch. In this story, see how Jesus uses the gift of touch in the life of a person with a repulsive illness.

Read Luke 5:12-13 (NIV)

¹² While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

¹³ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” And immediately the leprosy left him.

See also [Mark 1:40-41](#) and [Matthew 8:2-3](#).

A Nursing Assessment

- What needs do you assess in the man who approached Jesus? Consider the whole person and address his physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs.
- Picture yourself as the man with leprosy. How do you feel as you interact with Jesus? How do you think this man’s life was changed?

Applying the Bible to Nursing (Find [more questions](#).)

- What characteristics of Jesus’ interactions with the man would you like to reflect in your nursing practice?

Putting Faith into Practice

- Have you ever had to care for a patient with a physical condition that repulsed you? How did you feel about touching the patient?
- How can you express love through the gift of touch in your clinical practice this week? Share your experience with your small group at your next gathering.