- 1.) Do you identify more with the influential synagogue ruler or the outcast woman? What is it that you can relate to in that person's life?
- 2.) What does it feel like to be unclean in general? Can you describe an experience of feeling less than fully embraced in a spiritual setting?
- 3.) Take a look back at the range of Jesus' power and the reach of his love in Luke 8. What aspect of his power in these four miracles is most astonishing or awe-inspiring to you?
- 4.) Jesus restores the woman in community and the girl to her food and her family. What does this holistic healing and restoration teach us about our own healing and the healing we extend to others?
- 5.) Have you ever struggled with praying and believing but watching God not heal the way you were asking? How does this passage encourage us to trust God even when timing is a challenge or death interferes with our requests? How does it also give us hope in our prayers for healing?
- 6.) What often keeps you from throwing yourself at Jesus' feet? (NOTE: Consider both the pride of the man and the shame of the woman.)
- 7.) Are we a community that fully embraces the unclean and the reality that Jesus cleanses them so that they are fully clean? What one thing could we as a church do corporately to reflect the reality of Jesus' community better here? What one thing could you be doing personally to love the least, the lost, the littlest, the lonely, and the left-out as your Savior has loved and embraced you?

