

# Connecting New

September, 2015

Have you encountered the growing awareness that everything is connected? I like how John Muir said it, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe." With deeper openness and attentiveness, connections we never suspected become apparent. Our ability to hear what our bodies and our intuition speak to us expands, and through affirming experiences, grows even more. It is true; all is connected.

Once while praying with the nested Gospel stories of Jairus's daughter and the woman with the hemorrhage (Mark 5:21-43), a poem came to me that surfaced one of these deep, before unnoticed, connections. The child was twelve years old, the same length of time that the woman had been suffering. The child, most likely at a subconscious, intuitive level, manifested the illness precisely at the time and place that provided the opportunity for her mother (the woman with the hemorrhage) to encounter the healing power of Jesus.

## Birth-Mother

For twelve years she bled,  
for twelve years ostracized as unclean,  
suffering from her own unforgiveness and shame  
for becoming pregnant under the wrong circumstances,  
for giving away her baby girl.

It was time for her suffering to end,  
and her own flesh and blood knew it,  
suffered with her,  
because the connection was never lost,  
could never be lost.  
They continued to touch each other  
though unnoticed by others or even themselves.

Twelve years of suffering ended through faith and perseverance,  
by the father who pleaded,  
by the birth-mother who pushed in to touch his clothes,  
by the daughter who surrendered herself -  
and through love that heals all wounds  
and ushers new life.

It was God the whole time, all of those twelve years  
acting upon, through, in and with them,  
because love never fails, never abandons,  
and because forgiveness and healing  
need time to come to fulfillment.

Praise God for redemption.  
Praise Jesus for healing.  
Praise the Spirit for acting in our lives  
despite our lack of awareness,  
and thank you for the ancient stories  
that remain relevant today.

May we welcome growing awareness of the deep, subtle, marvelous connections that flourish through, with and within us.

Peace and Blessings,  
Clarence

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