INTRODUCTION: Gospel: Matthew 9:18-22 or Mark 5:21-34

The Gospel share us the experience of the relationship between Jesus and a sick woman who was suffering from hemorrhage. A sickness that was not visible in the eyes of the others but she had in her body. This situation kept her away from others, and her entourage. And in her faith, she will dare to brave the forbidden: touch Jesus when she was regarded as being in a state of impurity due to her bleeding. Miracle happens, because she will feel in her body the healing long-awaited!

Today, many women are suffering from non visible harms of their entourage. These are caused by marital infidelity with all its consequences like HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, betrayal, disappointment, abandoning home or violence... The eyes of these women who are suffering in their dignity are turned to the one and only Savior, Jesus, Consoler of the oppressed and the most vulnerable.

Experience
- What kind of suffering women are experiencing in your country?
- What issues social media are showing us about the suffering of women in our society?

Readings:
- Luke 7:36-50. Here, we see a wounded woman, who wet the feet of Jesus with her tears and wiped them with her hair. Gesture of discouragement, despair. But we see that she is comforted and restored in her dignity by Jesus.
- Mark 7:24-30. A Syro-Phoenician woman. She begged Jesus come to heal her daughter. She was rebuked by Jesus but she is not discouraged. Thanks to her strong faith, Jesus is touched by her request and answers her positively.
- John 4:1-42. The Samaritan. Jesus does not let himself stopped by human traditions that don’t give freedom. And this is the case of a woman in need of inner liberation.
- Luke 13:10-17. Jesus heals a Crippled Woman. She was supporting the weight of her infirmity and Jesus grants her the grace to heal and to stand straight.

What the Congregation says to us:
The Father, who is rich in mercy, sent his Son to bring good news to the poor, to set free the oppressed, to heal the contrite of heart... Constitutions N° 3
Our specific orientation is to girls and women whose condition in life cries out for the healing and salvation which Jesus alone can bring. We are deeply committed to their human and spiritual healing, and to their integral development. Since the well-being of the person is intimately linked to that of the family, we strive to serve them in the context of the family and the society in which they live. **Constitutions # 6**

### Actions to do

To understand the human situations in the light of the Gospel and Charism of our congregation, and to take concrete actions:

- **How I am personally committed to healing the wounds of women around me?**
- **What gestures, words, attitudes, -individual, in community or group- we commit to heal, comfort, release, or to treat the wounded women who surround us?**

### Final Prayer

God of love, you create the woman to reflect the beauty of your creation. In our world marked by the loss of human dignity, of marital infidelity, disappointments of all kinds, of betrayals, of marital neglect, violence, rape..., help us to heal the wounds of women who trust to us or who we meet. Like so many women of your time bearing their crosses discreetly and following you, they are lost and ignored in the crowd of our society. Just release their hearts to bitterness, disillusionment. Just release and renew their bruised hearts. That forgiveness, peace, joy of life and hope be renewed in their life so that they may recognize you as their Savior and their true comforter. AMEN.

**Submitted by Sr. Yvonne Clémence Bambara, JP Contact, Community of Burkina Faso**