

## Behind the Hymn: I Was the One

On Sunday morning, September 7, 1997, Pastor Jesse Middendorf was preaching on the Syrophenician woman from Mark 7:24-30. As he spoke, God showed me the truth in a new way: we were that woman who came from the outside, unworthy, hurting, and desperate, and Jesus showed us mercy.

That sparked this lyric. I began to see myself in the gospel characters whom Jesus tenderly helped:

*I was the leper who stood at a distance.  
I was the woman alone at the well.  
I was the crowd who mocked as You suffered.  
I was the beggar who cried for Your help.*

In February, 2000, I sent the lyric to my friend and co-writer, Mosie Lister. A week later he sent me this musical setting.

The eternal Christ is still walking the earth today, encountering individuals one at a time, speaking, healing, comforting, and forgiving. Praise to His wonderful name!

*--Ken Bible*

Hymn: [I Was the One](#)