

Mark 5:21-43 – Jesus Raises A Dead Girl And Heals A Sick Woman

Leader's Guide

February 24, 2019

1. Read Mark 5:21-43 to familiarize yourself with the passage. When we studied these verses, did you find yourself emotionally connecting more with Jairus and his dead daughter or the sick woman? Why? How were Jairus and his daughter different from the sick woman? In what ways were they the same? What was Mark teaching Jairus through the example of the sick woman's faith?

Jesus Heals a Woman and Jairus's Daughter

²¹ And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. ²² Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet ²³ and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." ²⁴ And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. ²⁵ And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. ²⁸ For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." ²⁹ And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" ³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³² And he looked around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

³⁵ While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" ³⁶ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." ³⁷ And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹ And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." ⁴⁰ And they

laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴² And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. ⁴³ And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

How were Jairus' daughter and the sick woman different?

- Jairus was a respected man in the community. This was a rejected woman in the community.
- Jairus' daughter was in an acute condition and was on death's door. This woman had a chronic condition and would continue to live.
- Jairus was rich. The woman was poor.
- Jairus led the local synagogue. The sick woman could not attend the local synagogue.

How were Jairus' daughter and the sick woman the same?

- This woman was bleeding for 12 years so she couldn't have children. Jairus' daughter was 12-years-old. While Jairus had a child for 12 years, this woman couldn't have a child for 12 years.
- The sick woman and Jairus' daughter were both women.
- Both were called daughters in this passage.
- Both were considered unclean and would communicate uncleanness to others. Jairus' daughter was unclean because she was a dead body. The sick woman was unclean because of her flow of blood.
- Both placed complete faith in Jesus and received healing in more ways than they expected. The sick woman was not just physically healed but she was socially restored by Jesus. Jairus' daughter didn't just recover from her sickness but Jesus gave her life after death.

What was Mark teaching Jairus through the example of the sick woman's faith?

- The sick woman had complete trust in Jesus' ability to heal her. Jesus told her it was not her touch of the tassels on his garment that healed her but her complete faith and trust in him. She provides an example of the kind of faith Jairus was to have in the face of his daughter's death. As Jesus says to him, "Don't not fear. Only believe." In the same way, Jesus calls us to place complete faith and trust in him no matter what circumstances we face. It is complete faith and trust in him alone to save us eternally, that saves us on the day of judgment and forgives our sin. It is complete faith and trust in him alone that frees us from the grip of sin in our life, not a 12-step program. If Jesus chooses to bring miraculous healing, like he did in these circumstances, it comes from our faith and trust in Jesus.

2. In Mark 5, we see Jesus doesn't just have raw power, but he is filled with compassion toward our needs no matter our social status. In these verses, what areas of life does Jesus care about and how does he feel when we suffer? (Matthew 9:36, Matthew 14:14, Matthew 15:32, 2 Corinthians 1:3, Hebrews 4:15)

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Matthew 9:36 (ESV)

- Jesus has compassion on us when others are taking advantage of us.

When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Matthew 14:14 (ESV)

- Jesus has compassion on those who are sick.

Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion on the crowd because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." Matthew 15:32 (ESV)

- Jesus has compassion for those who are hungry.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 2 Corinthians 1:3 (ESV)

- Mercy and comfort is one of the qualities of God the Father toward us.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15 (ESV)

- Jesus was tempted in every way like we are. Jesus understands our weaknesses because he felt the same weaknesses. When we call to Jesus in prayer, he understands. He endured weaknesses and temptation without sin. He can help us endure our weaknesses and temptation without sin.

3. In Mark 5, Jairus and the sick woman experienced God's work in their life in response to their faith in Jesus. What did their faith cost them? How was their faith rewarded? Read Hebrews 11. In this chapter what did faith cost? How were they rewarded for their faith? How will our faith cost us? What reward can we expect to receive?

What did their faith cost them?

- Jairus lost respect and possibly his position as the synagogue leader when he turned to Jesus for his daughter's healing. The Pharisees and Sadducees in the synagogue had already decided to put Jesus to death.
- The sick woman, who had spent 12 years avoiding people, found herself terrified because she was identified by Jesus in front of people.

How was their faith rewarded?

- Jairus' faith was rewarded when Jesus did more than heal his daughter. He gave back her life.
- The sick woman's faith was rewarded by physical healing plus social restoration.

In Hebrews 11, what did faith cost them?

- Noah spent most of his life building an ark and people mocked him for the project.
- Abraham left for the land of promise but never received an inheritance.
- Abraham offered up Isaac as a sacrifice.
- Moses chose not to be the son of Pharaoh's daughter but to be mistreated rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin.
- The Israelites walked around the walls of Jericho for 7 days by faith.
- Rahab hid the spies at risk to her life.
- Some were tortured and refused to be released so they might rise to a better life.
- Some were mocked, flogged, put in chains and in prison. Some were stoned and sawed in two. They were mistreated all because of their faith.

In Hebrews 11, how was faith rewarded?

- Enoch did not experience death but was taken to be with God.
- Noah saved his family in the flood
- Sarah received power to conceive even though she was too old.
- Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt.
- God knocked down the walls of Jericho.
- Rahab survived the attack on Jericho while the rest died.
- Those who suffered for Christ on earth will be rewarded with a better resurrection.

4. In Mark 5, we see Jesus delayed healing Jairus' daughter. Many times it feels like Jesus delays answering our prayers. What does Mark 5:21-43 teach us about why Jesus delayed healing Jairus' daughter? For a similar incident and reason, see John 11:1-44. What does this teach us about God's delays in our life?

What does Mark 5:21-43 teach us about why Jesus delayed healing Jairus' daughter?

- Jesus delayed healing Jairus' daughter because he wanted to do something better for Jairus that just heal his daughter. He wanted to build Jairus' faith and raise his daughter from the dead. When God delays answering our prayers, it is because he has a better plan for our life. That better plan may involve more pain but his plan is always to grow our faith and to magnify the amount of glory he receives from our life.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house.

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." John 11:1-44 (ESV)

- Martha and Mary could not understand why Jesus delayed coming to heal Lazarus. As a result of Jesus' delay, Lazarus died and was buried. In retrospect, we see the delay was so Jesus could do even more glorious work in Lazarus' life and raise him from the dead. In a similar way, God may delay answering our prayers for rescue for a long time. We can expect to find ourselves in situations that are hopeless. That way, when Jesus rescues us in ways we don't expect, he gets more glory, it build our faith, and we get more joy.

- It is noteworthy that Jesus challenges Mary and Martha to place their complete trust in him when facing death. That is the same thing Jesus challenged Jairus.