

THE GOSPEL OF MARK "Desperate"



Mark 5:21-43 (NIV)

⁽²¹⁾ When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. ⁽²²⁾ Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet ⁽²³⁾ and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." ⁽²⁴⁾ So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. ⁽²⁵⁾ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ⁽²⁶⁾ She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. ⁽²⁷⁾ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ⁽²⁸⁾ because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." ⁽²⁹⁾ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. ⁽³⁰⁾ At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" ⁽³¹⁾ "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" ⁽³²⁾ But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. ⁽³³⁾ Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ⁽³⁴⁾ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." ⁽³⁵⁾ While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?" ⁽³⁶⁾ Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe." ⁽³⁷⁾ He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. ⁽³⁸⁾ When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. ⁽³⁹⁾ He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." ⁽⁴⁰⁾ But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁽⁴¹⁾ He took her by the hand and said to her, *Talitha koum!* (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!") ⁽⁴²⁾ Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁽⁴³⁾ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

HOPELESSNESS X 4

He had the hopelessness of the disciples in the storm, naked Bob with the demons, bleeding Betty with 12 years of hemorrhaging and Jairus' only child who dies.

No situation is hopeless for Jesus.

BLEEDING BETTY

*Ostracized and Desperate

Sexually – she could not touch her husband

Maternally – could not have children

Domestically – everything she touched, beds, cloths, dishes were unclean

Spiritually – not allowed to go to the synagogue or temple

Relationally – no friends

Financially—broke and worse off

*Why did he call her out of the crowd?

To put away the superstition of who and what healed her—**restoration**.

*"Daughter" It is only found where Jesus addresses anyone in this way. It is said as a father would talk to his daughter, with tenderness and love.

DESPERATE JAIRUS'

*Synagogue leader/top of the social ladder humbled himself—faith in Jesus to heal.

*"Don't be afraid; just believe." Stop fearing and keep on believing –even in the presence of death.

*Professional Mourners—rules had to be followed

*"Asleep not Dead" cover story for the miracle so that he wouldn't be invited to every funeral for the next 3 years

*"Completely Astonished" - now the disciples have seen it all, nature, demons, sickness and now death. Who is the Jesus?

*"Strict Orders" back to the secrecy.

Faith:

*Opens the door to the power of God.

*Shows persistence in overcoming any obstacle.

*Is embodied in action.

*Is impelled by desperation that Jesus is sufficient to meet whatever need one has.

NIV Application Commentary

Does Astonishment lead to Belief?