

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



Who Do You Say He Is?
Mark 5:21–43

Mark 5:21–43

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 leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. **23** He 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 people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?”

36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “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 leader, 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 began to walk 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.

Faith knows where to turn

- **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” (vv. 22–23)
- “**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” (vv. 27–28).
- Jesus has power over death.
- Do you know where to turn?

Faith won’t stop

- “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 (vv. 24b–26).
- “**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” (vv. 35–36).

- Jesus is worth it.
- Is your faith unstoppable?

Faith doesn't listen to doubters

- “and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse” (v. 26).
- “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” (vv. 38–40a).
- Jesus is real.
- Does your faith doubt the doubters?
 - Having faith doesn't mean you won't have doubt; Having faith means you don't believe the doubts.

Faith takes action

- 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” (vv. 22–23)
- “For she said, “If I touch even his garments, I will be made well” (v. 28).
- Jesus wants us come to him.
- Does your faith take action?

Faith leads to life

- “And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease” (v. 34).
- 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” (vv. 41–42).
- Jesus is our rescuer.
 - “Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live” (v. 23).
 - “For she said, “If I touch even his garments, I will be made well” (v. 28)
 - “Dovetailing the stories of two such dissimilar individuals reveals that being male, being ritually pure, holding a high religious office, or being a man of means provide no advantage in approaching Jesus. Being female, impure, dishonored, and destitute are no barrier to receiving help. God always takes the side of those who have been denied rights and privileges, the oppressed and poor. In God's kingdom the nobodies become somebody. In other words, the only thing that

avails with God and Jesus is one's faith. Health, wholeness, and salvation are not extended to just the lucky few who already have so much of everything else. But neither does Jesus set the lowly over against the lofty. Faith enables all, honored and dishonored, clean and unclean, to tap into the merciful power of Jesus that brings both healing and salvation" (David Garland, Mark, 225).

- Have you experienced Jesus' life?

Faith in Jesus is the answer to your despair.

Question: How will you exercise your faith in your despair?