



HITTING THE MARK

LIVING A TRANSFORMED LIFE



Facing the Impossible

Mark 5:21-43

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21 When Jesus had crossed over again in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around Him; and so He stayed by the seashore. 22 One of the synagogue officials names Jairus came up, and on seeing Him, fell at His feet 23 and implored Him earnestly, saying, “My little daughter is at the point of death; please come and lay Your hands on her, so that she will get well and live” 24 And He went off with him; and a large crowd was following Him and pressing in on Him.



25 A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years, 26 and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse- 27 after hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak. 28 For she thought, “If I just touch His garments, I will get well.” 29 Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.



30 Immediately, Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My garments?” 31 And the disciples said to Him, “You see the crowd pressing in on You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ ” 32 And He looked around to see the woman who had done this. 33 But the woman fearing and trembling, aware of what had happened to her, came 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 affliction.”



35 While He was still speaking, they came from the house of the synagogue official, saying “Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?” 36 But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, “Do not be afraid any longer, only believe.” 37 And He allowed no one to accompany Him, except Peter and James and John the brother of James. 38 They came to the house of the synagogue official; and He saw a commotion, and people loudly weeping and wailing.



39 And entering in, He said to them, “Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep.” 40 They began laughing at Him. But putting them all out, He took along the child’s father and mother and His own companions, and entered the room where the child was. 41 Taking the child by the hand, He said to her, “Talitha kum!” (which translated means, “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”) 42 Immediately the girl got up and began to walk, for she was twelve years old. And immediately they were completely astounded. 43 And He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this, and He said that something should be given her to eat.



Passage Structure

- ABA Structure: Jairus → Woman → Jairus
- Purposeful, divine orchestration of sequence of events
- 1. Interruption as Opportunity
- 2. Test of Faith



A) Summary of the Healings (5:21-43)

Who was healed?	- Jairus' Daughter (v 22)	- A woman (v25)
Physical maladies	- "At the point of death" (v23) (later said to have died) (v35)	- "Hemorrhage for twelve years" (v25)
Other circumstances	- Distance to travel to his home - Delay as Jesus sought the woman who was healed	- Doctors could not heal her - Out of money - Condition worsened - Ritual uncleanness - Unable to worship in temple
How was each healed?	- Jesus' command: "Talitha kum!" (Little girl, I say to you, get up!) (v41)	- "after hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak" (v27)
Other factors in healing	- Faith in Jesus (v24: "lay Your hands on her" and v36: "only believe")	- Faith in Jesus: "If I just touch His garments, I will get well." (v28) "your faith has made you well" (v34)



B) Healing of the Woman: (Mk 5:25-34)

- Rightly Placed Faith
 - Meaning: In whom or in what do we place our faith in?
 - Clear answer in the Bible for any circumstances, big or small
 - Woman's story:
 - 1) Worsening condition, unable doctors, spent resources, social outcast, unable to worship in temple
 - 2) Faith: If only I can touch His cloak, I will be healed
 - Point 1A: God uses doctors, resources, etc., but only sometimes
 - Temptation is to come to depend on these things rather than on God who works through them
 - Subsequent temptation is to despair when these things do not yield results desired, expected, or hoped for
 - Point 1B: God sometimes has other plans to accomplish His purposes
 - Reconsider the woman's story: it's a beautiful story of God's work and her faith rightly placed in the Person of Jesus, in His love, power, and mercy (power had gone out on account of who He is)



C) Healing of Jairus' Daughter (Mk 5:25-34)

- Test of Faith

- Jairus' faith is tested 1) by the distance, 2) by the woman's healing, and 3) by news of his daughter's death
- Jesus encourages Jairus "Do not be afraid any longer, only believe" (i.e. stop fearing in unbelief but keep on believing)
- Present tense indicates that Jairus had not lost faith, and Jesus was encouraging Jairus to strengthen his faith

- Healing

- Commands the girl to get up and walk
- Jesus tells all to leave and brings with him only Peter, James, John, and the girl's parents ("silence theme" of Mark's gospel- points to something greater)
- Woman's story points to it: relationship with Jesus and forgiveness of sin



C) Healing of Jairus' Daughter (Mk 5:25-34)

Forgiveness of Sin (Mark 2:3-12)

3 And they came, bringing Him a paralytic, carried by four men. 4 Being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying. 5 And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, said to them, "Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Get up, and pick up your pallet, and walk'? 10 But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"- He said to the paralytic, 11 "I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet, and go home." 12 And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."



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Discussion Questions

1. Why is it important that Jesus is the singular object of our faith?
2. How do you react when God does not seem to answer your prayer?
3. Share a testimony about a bold prayer request you or someone you know made and how it turned out, or share about a seemingly impossible challenge you are facing now.