

Home Group Notes

Mark 5:21-34 - Faith in Jesus (Part 1)

Introduction

This story is preceded by Jesus arriving on the east shore of lake Galilee, outside of Israel and encountering a Gentile man possessed by demons, making him unclean. Jesus shows him compassion and heals him (Mark 5:1-20). Jesus is then asked to leave by one crowd before crossing back across the lake and being sought out by another crowd.

1. Are you the kind of person who loves being around people all of the time or somebody who needs to have time on their own?
2. How would you have felt if you were Jesus, by the time we get to our study passage?

Read Mark 5:21-34

3. What links the stories of Jairus and the haemorrhaging woman with the previous story of the demon possessed man?
4. What is the main difference between the crowds of vs 15-17 and v21?
5. Do we find people we talk to in various receptive states? What does Jesus do in these two different situations? What should we do when people are aggressively against us?

Jairus, a synagogue leader, comes to Jesus asking him to heal his sick daughter. On the way to the house they are interrupted by an unnamed woman who has been bleeding for 12 years.

6. Neither the woman nor Jairus' daughter are given names in this passage. What does that tell you about them and their society?
7. The woman was in a bad condition. How bad?
(See v25-26 and Leviticus 15:25.)
8. Why did she not stop Jesus? What do you think she was feeling and thinking?
9. Who else might think or feel similar things in our own society?
10. What two actions in response to hearing about Jesus, demonstrate the woman's faith in v27?
11. How is your faith shown in everyday life?
12. It was believed that when somebody unclean touched you then you too became unclean. What happens here?
13. It is likely that this woman had a bit of a magical view of Jesus and did not properly understand who he was. But, she had a simple faith in Jesus. What does that mean for us?
14. Why does Jesus stop to talk to this woman?
15. What is the significance of the word 'Daughter' in v34?

Prayer Points

1. *Pray for those known to you who are ill.*
2. *Pray for courage to offer prayer to others in need.*
3. *Pray that you may have a simple, uncomplicated and mature faith in Jesus.*
4. *Pray that we will include those who are different.*