

Theme: From the story of Jairus we learn how to sustain faith while we await the final day when Jesus' powerful word raises us from the dead.

I. Intro - Language of the Heart

- A. Hit 365 straight days of Spanish learning yesterday
- B. Heart language - our first and deepest language
- C. Peter remembers Jesus' words in the original Aramaic!
- D. What happened that day? What do I learn from it?

II. The Lord Over Death

A. Jairus and his daughter

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. Mark 5:21–24

1. Jairus, a synagogue ruler comes to Jesus
 - a. Synagogue rulers were respected
 - b. Not "professionals" but oversaw the synagogue
 - c. He is steeped in Scripture to build his faith!
2. He falls down before Jesus (like the demoniac)
3. His daughter is at death's door - but he has faith that Jesus can heal her
4. So Jesus goes to heal the daughter.
5. At this point, Jairus is full of faith and hope!

B. A seemingly pointless delay!

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." Mark 5:30–34

1. The story of the woman with bleeding (last week)
2. One can imagine how this "interruption" filled Jairus with worry!
3. But Jesus is undeterred - He knows healing has happened and wants to know who has been healed
4. He will not move on until the person comes forward - this is a Divine interruption!
5. Jesus is often working to meet needs we don't even recognize, and so His purposeful work can seem pointless or even counter to the needs we perceive.
6. Jairus must think the healing could have happened without the delay - and it could have!
7. But now Jairus' hope and faith return as they resume the trip so his daughter can be healed

C. A seemingly catastrophic delay!

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?" Mark 5:35

1. While Jesus is speaking peace to the woman, a shattering word of turmoil arrives for Jairus!

2. The worst has happened - she has died!
3. This interruption has brought catastrophe!
4. Jairus must have felt his faith and hope drain away
5. The words of his servants bolstered his fear and undermined his faith - this is beyond even Jesus!

D. Jesus' faith-inspiring response and words

Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe." Mark 5:36

1. παρακούω - means both overhear and ignore
2. Jesus is a master at overhearing and ignoring in this whole passage, for He knows that much of what humans speak is fear-filled folly rather than faith-filled wisdom.
3. "The synagogue ruler" - Jairus now knows what it has been like for the unnamed, outcast woman with the bleeding, for even his name seems to be gone.
4. Jesus speaks to this man in crisis - "Don't fear; just believe!"
5. Just as Jesus ignored the messengers, he is calling Jairus to ignore his fears and trust God.
6. And Jairus has good reason to trust and believe - he has just heard the testimony of the woman!
7. The seemingly pointless and catastrophic delay is now a means of strengthening Jairus' faith!
8. Divine appointments and interruptions often appear pointless or even catastrophic to us amidst of our needs, but afterward we discover that they were critical preparation for what lay ahead.

E. A final obstacle to faith

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. Mark 5:37-40

1. Jesus takes only Peter, James, and John and goes
2. The house is full of mourners and the sights and sounds of death
 - a. Even the poorest person was required to hire two flute players and one wailing woman (Rabbi Judah)
 - b. These folks are a visual and auditory reminder of the reality - his daughter is dead!
3. Jesus seems naive as He questions why they are wailing and then states that the girl is not really dead but only asleep!
4. The group incredulously laughs at Jesus! Jesus, His words, and His actions often seem crazy to our upside-down, fear-filled, sin-soaked world.

F. The Lord over death

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 kum!" (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. Mark 5:40-43

1. Jesus takes charge and puts the mourners out!

2. The small group goes to where the girl lay dead
3. Jesus personally touches her and speaks in her heart language - "Talitha koum!" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!")
4. Peter can still remember the moments and his exact words - it is etched into his memory in his heart language.
5. IMMEDIATELY she stood up and walked around - raised from the dead!
6. They were "astonished with a great astonishment"!

III. Applying the Word

A. Understanding how faith is sustained

1. Faith humbly looks to Jesus
 - a. Jairus was a powerful man with many connections
 - b. But he was humbled by his circumstances - he could not save his daughter
 - c. So he comes and falls on his face before Jesus - this is humble faith
 - d. Humility causes faith to thrive while pride causes it to wither.
2. Faith rejects fear and looks to Jesus
 - a. Jesus tells Jairus "Don't be afraid; just believe!"
 - b. He also contrasted fear & faith in the storm (Mark 4:40)
 - c. Fear is the antithesis of faith, looking to circumstances rather than the power and goodness of Jesus.

- d. Disciples must daily choose to reject fear and trust in Jesus
3. Faith endures through delays, difficulties, and derision
 - a. Jesus' command to "only believe" - πίστευε - present active imperative - keep on believing!
 - b. Faith is not a momentary state but a continued trust in Jesus that endures over time.
 - c. Jairus had faith Jesus could heal - but there were delays, difficulties, and derision!
 - d. Jairus' faith endured as the crowd and the healing of the woman caused delays.
 - e. Jairus' faith endured through the difficulty of his daughter's death.
 - f. Jairus' faith endured through the derision of the mourners in the house - they laughed at Jesus and must have thought Jairus was crazy to listen to Him!
 - g. Faith must endure through the inevitable delays, difficulties, and derision that disciples will face as they follow Jesus.
4. Faith is strengthened by hearing the voice of Jesus
 - a. As Jairus' faith falters with the news of the death, it is the voice of Jesus that revives his faith
 - b. Faith is not built by ignoring or denying circumstances, but rather choosing to focus on Jesus and His Word instead.
 - c. Jairus had to choose whether to listen to the messengers who had come or to Jesus - and he chose to hear Jesus!
 - d. Faith is nourished by focusing on the voice of Jesus rather than the voices of doubters.

e. Disciples must daily choose to dial into the voice of Jesus rather than the voices of doubt all around

5. As I consider this list, is there an area I have not been nourishing my faith so that it is sustained and strong?

B. The Lord of Life - and the Lord Over Death!

1. The reason nourishing and sustaining faith is so critical is that Jesus is the Lord of Life - and the Lord over death!
2. This world is full of harsh voices that stoke fear!
3. If the resurrection is true, then everything's going to be alright. - Tim Keller
4. Because Jesus is the Lord Over death He is also the Lord over life - and we can live with faith, hope, joy, and freedom - everything is going to be alright!
5. Don't listen to the skeptics, mockers, and fear-mongers - listen to Jesus and live in full-hearted faith and joy!

C. The Table of Life!

1. At this Table, we remember the life, death, resurrection, and return of Jesus Christ!
2. At this Table, by faith we experience the power of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection!
3. At this Table, by faith we receive the resurrection power of Jesus to sustain us until His certain return!
4. Come and receive from Your Lord!

Faith In the Lord Over Death

Mark 5:21-43

May 28, 2023

Communion

Ephesians 1:17-21

Teaching keywords: Christology; faith; resurrection; Jesus

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. Ephesians 1:17-21

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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.

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