

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

April 24, 2019

The Gospel of Luke

Back to Work in Capernaum

Topics – Luke 8; Jairus; woman with issue of blood

Text – Luke 8:40 – 56 (Parallel Passages – Matthew 9:18 – 22; Mark 5:21 – 34)

Introduction (v. 40)

In the last section of Luke 8, we discussed the Demoniac of Gadara. Here in vs. 40 – 56, we see the Lord returning from his trip to Gadara and immediately he is surrounded by people. Perhaps, He was looking forward to a little rest after his trip, but there would be no rest for Him. He is immediately summoned by a man who begged him to help his twelve year old daughter, and on His way to help the little girl, he is stopped by another person who needs help. Some days, this is what the ministry is like. You may have a plan in place for the day, but things come up that will take precedence over your plans. People always take precedence over plans.

Notice how quickly everything transpires in this story. Jesus is scarcely off the boat when He is thronged by people. He is confronted by an emergency, and as He is on His way, another emergency develops. He takes care of that situation and the first problem presses on Him again, and He immediately goes to tend to that.

Note from v. 1 – People who help other people never run out of people to help. If you love people, people will love you back.

I. Jairus Pleads For Help For His Dying Daughter (vs. 41 – 42)

If you have a great need, the smart thing to do is beg God for His help.

People with great needs lose all of their pride. Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue, yet he wasn't too prideful to go down to Jesus feet and beg for help.

"A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit." (Proverbs 29:23)

"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. ... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." (James 4:6, 10)

II. Jesus Pauses on the Way to Help Another Lady (vs. 43 – 48)

Jesus was on His way to help a twelve year old girl who was dying, when he pauses because a woman touched him.

Can you imagine what the father of the twelve year old thought about the interruption?

The woman who touched him was also in a desperate state. She had some type of an issue of blood for twelve years. She had spent a lot of money on doctors, and none of them could help

her (See Leviticus 15:19 – 22). Wiersbe says: “She was defiled, destitute, discouraged, and desperate; but she came to Jesus and her need was met.”¹

Note the contrast regarding the twelve years. The man had twelve years of joy with his daughter but was about to lose her, the woman had twelve years of misery, and was hoping for relief. Both needed Jesus.

She was trying to be discrete, no doubt not wanting to draw attention to her disease; yet, she exhibited great faith in recognizing that only Jesus could help her. She was healed the minute she touched him. “Stanch,” means “to stop the flow of blood.” Mark 5:29 states that the fountain of her blood was “dried up.”

Note – she touched “the border of his garment:”

"Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God." (Numbers 15:38-40)

"Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four quarters of thy vesture, wherewith thou coverest thyself." (Deuteronomy 22:12)

The Pharisees went overboard in making their borders really big so people could see them:

"But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments," (Matthew 23:5)

Jesus knew that healing power had gone from Him (virtue), so He stops to give His attention to the woman.

This woman, like Jairus, is completely humble at the presence of Jesus.

III. Jesus Persists in Going to the Little Girl Even though She Had Died (vs. 49 – 56)

Imagine how Jairus must have felt after hearing that his daughter was already dead. Do you think he might have been angry with the woman for stopping the Lord, or perhaps, angry with the Lord for stopping.

Jesus admonishes the man to not be afraid – just believe, and He assures him that all will be well with his daughter.

Jesus said the girl was “sleeping” (See John 11:11 – 15).

Notice – the people gathered at Jairus’ house exhibited no faith. They mourned because they thought there was no hope, and then they laughed because they did not believe that Jesus could do anything. Note – these were very likely paid mourners:

¹ Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 203.

"And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels (αὐλητῆς – aulētēs – flute players) and the people making a noise," (Matthew 9:23)

Jairus, on the other hand, must have had hope because he went along with everything the Lord wanted him to do. This man was brought to the place where his only hope was Jesus. Sometimes God allows tragedies in our lives that force us to place our faith in Christ, literally because there is no other place to turn for help.

Yet, he and his wife were still astonished at what the Lord did.

Jesus calls the girl, and she hears His voice. Anytime Jesus raised somebody from the dead, he called for them to arise. (Luke 7:14 – the widows son; John 11:43 – Lazarus)

Mark gives us Jesus' precise words:

"And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise." (Mark 5:41)

Notice – besides the parents, only Peter, James, and John witnessed this miracle. They were Jesus' "inner circle." They also went with Him to the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1; Mark 9:2), and to the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:33).

Jesus commanded the parents not to tell anyone. Perhaps his reasoning was that the throngs that would pursue Him as a result of the healing would hinder His ministry. Perhaps, it was because the attention given and the adverse attitude of the Pharisees might harm the girl.

Jesus healed a leper who disobeyed His command to keep silent:

"And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them. But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter." (Mark 1:44-45)

Remember, He told the demoniac to tell his friends, and shew his house, possibly because the demoniac was in Gentile territory far away from the religious leaders.