

**GOOD NEWS FROM THE KING**  
***A Study of the Gospel According to Mark***  
**Mark 5:21–43**

*Holy Bible, New International Version ©2011*

*"Don't be afraid; just believe."* Mark 5:36

**Pray for the Holy Spirit to open your heart to his word.**

Read through this week's passage and jot down any thoughts and questions you may have.

**Read Mark 5:21–43.**

1. While Jesus was away on the opposite side of the Sea of Galilee (5:1–20), his popularity has continued to grow.
  - a. What had Jesus been doing that made him so sought after? (Mark 2:13, 3:10)
  - b. Given the two main characters in this passage (Jairus and the unnamed woman), what do you think this crowd is looking for?
2. How often do you go to Jesus when you are in a time of crisis? Is this different when your life is going well?

**Read Mark 5:21–23.**

3. While the crowd gathers around Jesus, Jairus, a synagogue ruler, falls at his feet, pleading for help. As a man of status and influence in his community, what does this tell you about Jesus' current public image?
4. We can see in the passage how desperate Jairus was to save his beloved child. How is the heart of God toward us reflected in this earthly father? (Romans 5:8; Galatians 4:4–7)

**Read Mark 5:24–34.**

5. In the middle of all this commotion, a woman works her way through the crowd to get closer to Jesus. Read Leviticus 15:25–27 and imagine what life was like for this woman after suffering for twelve years. What might she have been thinking when facing this tight crowd?

6. How does this woman's situation exemplify the human condition? (v. 26; Romans 3:10–12; Ephesians 2:1–3,12)
7. The woman thought "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed" (v. 28). Was she right? What is the source of her healing? (v. 34)
8. Mark tells us that Jesus could feel the power going out from him as the woman is healed. Although he does not need to ask, "Who touched my clothes?" (v. 30), why do you think he does? (Consider verses 32–34.)
9. The woman comes "trembling with fear" (v. 33). How does Jesus address her fear? (v. 34)

**Read Mark 5:35–43.**

10. Now we return to Jairus, who is doubtless waiting anxiously while Jesus appears to be wasting precious time as Jairus' daughter is dying. What steps of faith is Jesus encouraging Jairus to take? (v. 36; 📖\* Romans 4:18–21)
11. When Jesus says that the little girl is not dead but sleeping, he gives his followers a glimpse into the future. What do his words begin to teach us about death and resurrection, and ultimately about his mission? (John 11:25–26; 1 Corinthians 15:20–22)
12. What would have been the expected consequence of holding the hand of a dead person? (Numbers 19:11)

Yet what is the amazing result of this touch? (v. 42)

13. Let's summarize. In this passage Mark has sandwiched one story within another. Why do you think he chose to do this?

Fill out this chart to help you compare and contrast these two situations in terms of:

	the woman	Jairus and his daughter
Their social and economic status		
The duration of their illnesses		
The way they approached Jesus		
What they wanted/expected from Jesus		
What they were afraid of		
How Jesus challenged them		
How Jesus went above and beyond their requests		

What differences and similarities jump out at you? Which situation resonates most with you?

14. We are not given the names of the woman or the sick girl, but by what special names does Jesus call them? (vv. 34, 41).

What do these endearing titles say about the heart of Jesus towards them?

15. Read Matthew 11:28 –30 and 1 John 3:1a. What do these passages say about the heart of Jesus towards you?