

SHARE THE BIBLE LESSON

WEEK 11

Jesus has power over disease and death

Mark 5:21-43



DAY 1

A father trusted Jesus • Mark 5:21-24

READ

Mark 5:21-43

EXPLAIN

The truth of Mark 5:21-24

Many times, powerful leaders become lost in their own power. Instead of serving others, they serve only themselves. But not Jesus. He had more power and authority than anyone, yet He used this miraculous power to help the hurting, the weak, and the lost. In this story, Jesus made Himself available despite the strain of ministry. He was ready to hear the plea of one man who came to Him in faith. This man, Jairus, had humble faith. His only daughter had become so sick that she was on the verge of death (Luke 8:42). So Jairus fell before Jesus and kept begging Him to come and heal his daughter. Jairus didn't care what his friends and neighbors might think. He cared only for Jesus. This humility is precious, because **faith** is admitting your own weakness and clinging only to Jesus. Jairus also had confident faith. Jesus' previous miracles had convinced Jairus that Jesus was able to heal his daughter. He shows that true **faith** is confidence in the person of Christ Himself, not in emotional experiences or religious systems or personal opinions.

ASK

1. Why did Jairus come to Jesus?
His daughter was sick and dying.
2. Was Jesus too busy to be bothered by Jairus' request?
No. Jesus made Himself available despite the strain of ministry.
3. How do you know Jairus had true faith?
He fell humbly before Jesus and was confident in Jesus' power.

DISCUSS

1. How does it encourage you to know that Jesus makes Himself available to you in your need?
2. Can you think of a time when you were too afraid of other people to admit how much you needed Jesus?

DAY 2

A woman trusted Jesus • Mark 5:25–28

READ

Mark 5:21–43

EXPLAIN

The truth of Mark 5:25–28

Do you see how much you need Jesus? The bleeding woman did. Like Jairus, this woman was desperate. She had been sick for twelve years, and all the doctors had made her worse, not better. She was also bankrupt, having spent all her money seeking a cure. But her troubles did not end there. Her health problem was also a religious and social problem, because the continuous bleeding made her permanently unclean (Lev 15:25–31). She could not join in worship at the temple, and people avoided touching her, since that would make them temporarily unclean too. Yet this woman—untouched for so many years—reached out and touched Jesus' robe. That touch was an act of faith. It was humble faith, as the woman had exhausted her own resources. And it was confident faith. She touched the robe, not because the robe was special, but because the robe was worn by Jesus Christ. It was a person, not a piece of clothing, that had become the object of her faith.

ASK

1. Who came to Jesus while He was on His way to heal Jairus' daughter?
A woman who was suffering.
2. What was wrong with the woman who touched Jesus?
She was bleeding for twelve years, she had spent all her money, and doctors only made it worse.
3. How was her health problem also a social and religious problem?
Her bleeding made her unclean. She could not go to the temple to worship. Other people didn't want to touch her, because then they would be unclean for a while too.
4. How did the woman show her faith?
She reached out and touched Jesus' robe.

DISCUSS

1. Is anyone “clean” before God (Isa 64:6)?
2. It is easy to think that we can fix our problem if we just try a little harder next time. Can you think of a time you thought though that way? Did you become desperate enough to humbly come to Jesus?

DAY 3

Jesus showed power and pity to the woman • Mark 5:29–34

READ

Mark 5:21–43

EXPLAIN

The truth of Mark 5:29–34

When Jesus heals, it is powerful and personal. It was powerful, because what human doctors failed to do in twelve years, Jesus did in an instant. But it was also personal. Despite the crowd pressing against Him, Jesus felt power flow out of Him into the woman. Not only did He personally feel the power, but He was also willing to be interrupted. Jesus was on an urgent mission, but He stopped to help the woman. He asked who touched Him

because He truly cared for the woman. His question led her to act in faith. She let everyone know about her disease without being afraid of what the crowds would think (Luke 8:47). She also told everyone how Jesus had healed her. In response to her faith, Jesus declared the best news, literally, “Daughter, your faith has saved you.” In other words, He brought her more than physical healing. He stopped and gave her personal attention in order to save her soul and make her a child of God. That is how Jesus is: He personally knows all who come to Him and is never too busy for them.

DAY 3 CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

ASK 

1. What did the woman's instant healing show about Jesus?
It showed Jesus' great power.
2. How did Jesus show personal care for the woman?
He felt the power go out of Him, and He took time to find her and confirm her faith.
3. What emotion did the woman feel when Jesus asked for her?
She felt fear—awe and reverence because she was in the presence of someone so powerful.
4. Did Jesus only heal her body?
No. He saved her. He cleansed her body and soul.

DISCUSS 

1. How was the healing Jesus provided far beyond what the woman expected to receive?
2. How does it encourage you to know that Jesus cares about you personally? Do you delight to come to Him with all your hopes and fears, all your needs and praises?

DAY 4*Jesus delayed and the daughter died • Mark 5:35–39***READ** 

Mark 5:21–43

EXPLAIN 

Mark 5:35–39

It was too late! As Jesus delayed on the way, Jairus' daughter died. Sure, Jesus could heal sick people, but no one expected He could raise the dead. Messengers from Jairus' house urged Jairus to leave Jesus alone. Those at the house wailed and mourned, because apart from Jesus, there is no hope in the face of death (1 Thess 4:13). But Jesus told Jairus, "Do not fear," since those who fear Jesus need not fear anything else. Second, Jesus said, literally, "Keep believing." Jesus urges everyone who trusts Him to keep trusting even when things get worse. But why did Jesus say that the girl was only asleep, since we know she was truly dead (Matt 9:18; Luke 8:53, 55)? In one sense, Jesus was explaining what death is like for believers. Death is as temporary and harmless as falling asleep (1 Thess 4:13–14). Also, this girl's death was like sleep because her death was temporary. Thus, by delaying on the way, Jesus allowed the situation to get worse before making it better. This would test Jairus' faith and make Jesus' power even more obvious.

ASK 

1. What happened to the girl before Jesus got there?
She died.
2. Did people think Jesus could raise Jairus' daughter from the dead?
No. Messengers told Jairus to leave Jesus alone, and those at the house wailed and mourned.
3. When Jairus' daughter died, and things got worse, what did Jesus tell him?
Keep believing.
4. Why did Jesus say the girl was "not dead but sleeping"?
Her death, like sleep, was temporary. She had died, but Jesus would raise her from the dead.

DISCUSS 

1. Why are Christians able to have hope in the midst of death (1 Thess 4:13)?
2. Can you think of a time in your life when things just kept getting worse? How did it affect your relationship with Jesus? Did you keep believing? How did Jesus answer?

DAY 5

Jesus showed power and pity to the daughter • Mark 5:40–43

READ

Mark 5:21–43

EXPLAIN

The truth of Mark 5:40–43

See how gently Jesus uses His power! Even though touching a dead person would make Him ceremonially unclean (Num 19:11–22), Jesus took the girl by the hand. He also called her “talitha,” which means “little lamb,” as a father might speak tenderly to a daughter he loves. So with a gentle touch and gentle words, Jesus poured God’s power of life into her. In a moment, she went from dead to walking around! Can you imagine? Just when the disciples thought they had seen it all with the storm and the demons, they saw even more remarkable power: the power to raise the dead. While they stood in stunned amazement, Jesus showed once again His tender love by reminding them to get food for the girl. He also told them to keep it a secret so that the family could have time alone before the news got out. This is the Lord we are called to worship: He is powerful, personal, and kind. He pays attention, notices, and provides according to each individual’s needs. He is one we can trust, and He is worth all our love.

ASK

1. Now that the girl was dead, was there anything Jesus could do?
Yes. He raised her from the dead!
2. How long did it take for the girl to recover?
She immediately came back to life and began walking around.
3. How did Jesus show kindness to the girl?
He held her hand, called her “little lamb,” made sure she got food to eat, and made sure the crowd left her alone for a little bit.
4. How did the people who saw respond to Jesus’ miracle?
They were immediately overcome with amazement.

DISCUSS

1. Have you been given a special nickname (like “little lamb”) by a family member or friend? How does this nickname show their tender love for you?
2. Why is it important that we, like Jesus, humbly love and care for those around us (1 John 4:7–8)?

NEXT WEEK

Jesus feeds the 5,000

John 6:1–15

