

Mark 5:21-43
Life Changing Encounters With Jesus



Warm Up

Do you recognise these images? What do they have in common?

Hollywood, and even kids TV are full of heroes to call upon when we are desperate. Who is your favourite literary/film hero/heroine? Why?

Background and context

The stories of the woman who touched Jesus' cloak and Jairus' daughter are two examples of desperate people turning to Jesus as a last resort. The passage is set early on in Mark, but already we know that the Pharisees and other religious leaders are plotting against Jesus. This makes Jairus' actions even more interesting. He is risking everything by associating with Jesus. The woman in the story is, of course, excluded from society and the synagogue because of her condition. It may even have been Jairus who excluded her from worship, yet Jesus calls her 'daughter' indicating that she is precious, just as Jairus' daughter is precious.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

READ Mark 5:21-43. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?

1. In **Ch3:6** we learn that the authorities were plotting against Jesus. What was it about Jesus that caused them to be so hostile?
2. Why would it have been so difficult for Jairus to come to Jesus? What was he risking?
3. Is this true of people today? How can we help those who are struggling to come to Jesus?
4. In the story, how was the woman different to Jairus? (apart from she was woman!)
5. Why do you think the woman was so secretive about seeking Jesus' help?
6. The woman wasn't just healed, she was transformed. What would be the impact of healing on her life?
7. Explain how the woman's life is a picture of the impact of sickness and sin and how Jesus deals with it.
8. **Read v36-43.** What changes take place in Jairus' household when Jesus takes charge? What does He say or do? Why are these things significant?
9. What changes take place in our lives when we let Jesus take charge?

Discipleship and Application



10. Jesus is the King we can call on when we are in trouble. What is your experience of this in

your life? Share some examples how the Lord has helped you in times of need.



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.