

# What Are We Waiting For?

*Mark 5:21-43*

## Introduction

There are many differences between Jairus and the woman with the discharge of blood. One enjoyed the company of the bubbly daughter while the other suffered the dreaded illness for 12 years. One had authority and approached Jesus openly while the other had none and came to Jesus secretly. However, there are similarities in their stories which are recounted here. Both waited. One lost his daughter and witnessed her raising while the other was healed. It is also a story of interruption. We will look at the story from the perspective of Jairus, how he felt throughout and how he reacted to Jesus.

## For Study and Discussion

### 1) The plea of Jairus vv5:21-24.

Jairus was an official of the synagogue. When he came to Jesus he did so as a desperate father seeking to save his critically ill child. From Luke's account (8:40), we know that when Jesus returned by boat from the other side of the lake there was a large crowd gathered which had been there waiting for Him. As a desperate father, Jairus probably pushed his way to the front and fell on Jesus' feet.

a. What do you think was going through Jairus' mind as he pleaded with Jesus? v5:23

b. Imagine his relief when Jesus agreed to go with him, what would be his response to Jesus? v5:24a

### 2) An unwanted interruption vv5:25-34.

a. While this interruption was going on, Jairus would have been anxious for his daughter, as every second would have mattered. What do you think would be going through his mind?

b. The lady with the blood discharge would have exhausted her resources for possible remedy, nothing worked. At the instance when she touched Jesus, she knew she was healed. Why did Jesus pause to get her to acknowledge it publicly? vv33-34 Consider if anyone, including the disciples, would know what had happened if neither Jesus nor the lady said anything?

c. Why do you think the lady came to Jesus trembling with fear even though she had been healed?

- d. Although the woman was healed immediately when she touched Jesus' clothes, what was it that brought about her healing according to Jesus? What did Jesus tell her to do?

3) The raising of the daughter vv5:35-43.

- a. What would have been in Jairus' mind when some people told him "Your daughter is dead!"? v35

- b. What happened next? vv36-43

- c. In both cases, what attribute did Jairus and the woman demonstrate through their actions? v28 and v36

### **Discipleship Pointers**

- Sometimes our lives are a series of interruptions and we question God's wisdom because of them. Perhaps we should challenge our own limited knowledge instead. Just like the disciples who questions Jesus when He asked "Who touched my clothes?" likewise, we might want to rethink some of these questions we pose to the Lord.
- Jesus didn't just perform miracles on the woman, but also allowed testimony from her. It is a complete restoration, physically as well ceremonially.
- Faith is ultimately the ingredient both Jairus and the woman demonstrated. Would we also be found likewise?

### **Family/Group Moments**

- Like Jairus, we become anxious when we don't see the Lord acting according to our plans and wishes. Even during a short dramatic interruption, our faith might waver. Discuss how in times of anxiety we would stay faithful and trust in God's timing and wisdom.
- There is too much noise in life, much like Jairus' experience in getting Jesus to his daughter. Discuss how you could stay focus on the Lord and stay obedient. What are the challenges that you need prayer for?