



11.8.09 – Mark 5:21- 43

Materials Needed: Print a copy of 'Jesus' (see attached document) and bring tape, colored markers, and 1 small piece of paper for each kid and the leader

Be prepared to discuss something that worries or hurts you and explain how you take this concern to Jesus by following the Bible's instruction and being confident that Jesus hears our concerns through prayer and has the power to heal you.

Opening Activity

- Have each child (and you, the leader) write or draw 1 thing that hurts or worries you. For example: A hurt could be a bee sting, a broken arm, a friend gossiping behind your back. A worry could be that your Dad lost his job, Grandma is sick, a friend has to move away, a hard test is coming up in school, etc. (Assist children who cannot write yet or may have a difficult time with this task.)
- Once everyone is done, share the thing that hurts or worries you (the leader) and explain what you do when this happens. Example: *Worry:* "My friend is in the hospital and is very sick." *Action:* "I know that the doctors are taking good care of my friend. I'm praying that Jesus would give the doctors wisdom and that Jesus would heal my friend. I am confident that Jesus can handle this situation."
- Have the children share their worries or hurts. (Don't force anyone to do it, just ask for volunteers.) After each child has the opportunity to share (if they so desire), explain how he/she can take that hurt or worry to Jesus. Explain that Jesus loves them very much and wants to take that *burden* away and heal them.
- Put a piece of tape on the back of each worry or hurt and have the children tape it to the picture of Jesus on the wall. (Continue into the discussion portion immediately.)

Discussion

Looking at the picture of Jesus on the wall, explain that when we pray and put our confidence in Jesus, He will bear our burdens and heal us! (Now, Jesus may not always heal us the way we think He should, but that doesn't mean that He doesn't heal us. As we'll see tonight, healing takes place both physically and spiritually, and it may not always happen together or at the same time.)

Read Mark 5:22-29, 33-34, 41-42

Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." And he went with him. . . . And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. And there was a woman who had a discharge of blood for twelve years, And who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. . . . But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." . . . (Now, more about Jairus) Taking her by the hand he [Jesus] said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement.



As we discussed a few weeks ago, we know that God sent Jesus to earth to save us – he was born in a manger, he lived among us to teach us his truths, to die on a cross and to rise again – so that he could save us from our sin, or the brokenness and hurtful things we do to God, each other and ourselves. When Jesus saves us, He saves us both spiritually, within our souls, and physically, within our bodies.

In these verses, we see that Jesus heals the little girl and the bleeding woman. This is an example of how Jesus physically heals people. The little girl was dead and Jesus brought her back to life. The woman in the crowd was sick and bleeding and Jesus healed her.

Question 1: Have you ever had to go to the doctor because you were sick? What did the doctor do for you?

Jesus gives our doctors the wisdom and understanding they need to heal us. And we see from the activity at the beginning and from these verses that Jesus wants us to bring our hurts and worries to him, just like the little girl's father and the bleeding woman. Jesus HAS the power to heal us! Do you believe that?

Unlike our doctors, Jesus does not have to use medicine or surgery to heal us. He may choose to heal us using those methods, but Jesus can heal us because He *is* God. If he were just an ordinary man, like you and me, he wouldn't be able to heal us. But since Jesus *is* God, he has the power of God to heal – the same power that created the heavens and the earth and you and me! Wow, that's pretty amazing, huh! (We see a reference to this in John 1:14 where John says, "the Word [of God] became flesh and dwelt among us. . ." The word 'flesh' here signifies Jesus and means that He is *one* with God.)

Since Jesus came to earth to save us, he not only saves us physically, but spiritually as well. (This is the reason why he saved us . . . our souls were broken!) As we see in these verses, **Jesus heals the little girl and the bleeding woman physically to communicate a greater need for spiritual healing.**

In verse 23, we see that the little girl's dad believed in Jesus' healing power so much that he went to him and asked him to heal his daughter. He had confidence in Jesus. "Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live," he said. But, he thought that Jesus had to BE in his house to heal her. Jesus is greater than time or place and can heal anywhere. Just by speaking a word or thinking it, Jesus can heal. All Jesus asked of the father was "don't be afraid; just believe."

Question 2: How did the little girl's father, Jairus, show Jesus that he believed in Jesus' healing power? *He went to Jesus, fell at Jesus' feet and asked him to heal his daughter.*

Question 3: If Jairus could go to Jesus and ask him to heal his daughter, we can go to Jesus too! How can you go to Jesus and ask him to heal you or your parents or others that you love? How can you ask him to take away your worries? *We may not be able to physically walk up to Jesus like Jairus did, but we can pray. Prayer is our direct line to God.*

We see an example of this truth in Jeremiah 29:12-13: ". . . call upon me and come and pray to me, and I [God] will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." See, Jesus tells us to call out to him and seek him with all of our heart, and HE WILL LISTEN! How cool is that! We worship a God who LISTENS to us and desires for us to call upon Him!

If we continue on and look at the bleeding woman, we see that not only does Jesus heal her from her physical sickness; but also her FAITH in Jesus was strengthened because she chose to COME to Jesus and touch him. For Jesus says, "Daughter, your faith



has healed you.” Just like the little girl’s dad, this woman put full confidence in Jesus, despite what other people might have thought about her, and she chose to tell Jesus the TRUTH about her life and sought after him with everything she had.

We discover here that the woman wasn’t healed by touching Jesus, but by having FAITH and believing in Jesus.

Question 4: If the woman’s faith grew by just touching Jesus, how can we increase our faith? *By reading the Bible and asking God to increase our faith in Him as we pray.*

We see in Hebrews 4:12 that “. . . the Word of God [the Bible] is living and active. . .” and as we read it, God transforms us! This is exciting news! This news should make us excited about reading the Bible. This news should encourage us to dive into it and learn all that we can about Jesus and how His power alone saves us, heals us, and takes on the worries and hurts of our lives if we choose to give them to Him!

Clarification

We see in these verses that Jesus has the power of God to heal us physically and spiritually. Jesus can do this because He IS God! We just have to go to Him and give him our hurts and worries. We do this by believing in Him, and believing that He can do what He says He can.

Wrapping Up

As we think about the little girl, her father, Jairus, and the bleeding woman, let’s remember how these people put their confidence in Jesus and how it was their FAITH that healed them, both physically and spiritually. Let’s encourage each other to pray often, read our Bibles, and ask God to increase our faith! Let’s close by praying about these things.