

Jesus' delay was not a denial of the girl's healing. If there are things in your life that have died, Jesus can still restore them to life. Share any prayer requests with your group and draw near to your Father in heaven as you seek His will in those requests.

3. Faith and Expectancy

5 God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ... 10 And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ--everything in heaven and on earth. ... 22 God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. - Ephesians 1:5, 10, 22 NLT

The one we pursue has authority over all things; including disease and death. Jesus drew near to us for our benefit and our healing. Is there anything that is preventing you from drawing near Him?

WRAP-UP

Both Jairus and the woman were desperate and willing to risk everything. There is hope for healing in the presence of Jesus. God's power channeled through our faith can heal us, in our bodies and our spirits. We don't have to be content with a momentary touch, we should seek to live fully alive as children of God. We need to hope for more than a temporary healing of our bodies. Jesus invites us to know Him, not just get something from Him. We need forgiveness of our sins but even more, we need the hope of eternal life as a child of the King.

MEMORY VERSE

But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings¹. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture. - Malachi 4:2 NLT

Challenge – Spend quiet time this week in God's presence, and ask Him what things He wants to resurrect in your life.

Hope

Welcome to Our World #1

INTRODUCTION

When the diagnosis is grim and you've exhausted all your options and your resources, or if your child is unresponsive and fading quickly, how can you possibly dare to have hope? When everyone around you says it's time to give up, who can offer you something to hold on to? Jesus can. And He did for two people in Mark chapter 5 who placed their trust in Him and didn't allow devastating circumstances to undermine what they knew to be true- healing happens when you are in the presence of Jesus. If you have faith in Jesus, you have hope.

Ice Breaker

Have you ever suffered (physically or emotionally) from something for so long that you gave up hope of it ever being healed?

Key Passage

And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over." - Mark 5:34 NLT

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. The Laws

Moses was known as the Law-giver. He was directed by God to instruct His people in the way they should live. There are 613 commands in the Old Testament covering everything from priestly and ritual practices to practices of purity. They were not only practical in guarding their physical well-being, but they were also important to their spiritual lives and their relationship to a Holy God.

"This is how you will guard the people of Israel from ceremonial uncleanness. Otherwise they would die, for their impurity would defile my Tabernacle that stands among them. - Leviticus 15:31 NLT

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. - 1 John 1:9 NIV

Leviticus 15:31 explains why it was important to remain ceremonially clean. The Tabernacle was the place where God dwells. Impurity in the presence of a pure and Holy God simply cannot exist. The power and very nature of God's purity destroys impurity just as the heat of the sun destroys an ice cube. And so, if the people brought impurity near a Holy God, they would be destroyed.

As believers, the Holy Spirit dwells in us, we are His tabernacle. But when we sin, we become tainted and impure, and our sin puts distance between us and God. God's presence cannot dwell along with the impurity of unrepentant sin. And so, we have been given a remedy for our sinfulness. What does 1 John 1:9 tell us to do to be purified and acceptable to approach God?

"All those who touch a dead human body will be ceremonially unclean for seven days. - Numbers 19:11 NLT

"When a woman has a discharge of blood for many days at a time other than her monthly period or has a discharge that continues beyond her period, she will be unclean as long as she has the discharge, just as in the days of her period. - Leviticus 15:25 NIV

"But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings¹. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture. - Malachi 4:2 NLT

¹ kānāp- wing, extremity, edge, border, corner

The prophet Malachi warned of a Day of God's Judgement, but he also extended hope. He said the Sun of Righteousness would come with healing in His "kānāp", which can be translated wing, edge, or border. And those who feared the Lord had a hope of healing, both physically and spiritually.

In Mark 5:25 an unclean woman who was bleeding, made her way through the crowd and touched Jesus' garment. Knowing both the laws of uncleanness, and the promise of healing in the "wings" of the Sun of Righteousness, why do you think the woman in Mark 5:25 wanted to touch Jesus' garment? When she confessed to Jesus that

she was the one who touched Him, what response do you think she expected?

25 A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. 26 She had suffered a great deal from many doctors, and over the years she had spent everything she had to pay them, but she had gotten no better. In fact, she had gotten worse. 27 She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. 28 For she thought to herself, "If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed ²." 34 And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well ². Go in peace. Your suffering is over." - Mark 5:25-28, 34 NLT

² sōzō

The original Greek text indicates that, more than just hearing the news about Jesus, this woman understood what it meant and took the risk to respond to the message. She had faith to be healed. The term for healed (sozo) can also be translated to make whole, or to save.

It wasn't faith alone that healed her, but the power of God channeled through her faith. What are some of the ways you have seen your faith come to life and grow? What things did you see, experience, or learn that gave you a firm assurance that Jesus can, and wants to, save and heal you?

2. Child of God

As this woman was released from her suffering, the suffering of Jairus grew deeper.

35 While he was still speaking to her, messengers arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. They told him, "Your daughter is dead. There's no use troubling the Teacher now." 36 But Jesus overheard them and said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid. Just have faith." - Mark 5:35-36 NLT

Jairus was the synagogue leader, and an affluent man, but he was also a desperate father who begged Jesus to heal his daughter. He watched as Jesus healed (sozo- to make whole, heal, save) a woman on the opposite end of the social spectrum. Jesus had referred to her as "daughter". Her physical healing might last for her lifetime, but it was only temporary compared to her eternal salvation and her adoption into God's family.

Compare the different attitudes and expectations, of being a "consumer" approaching God in pursuit of a healing, and a as "child" seeking your Father's presence?

Jairus had faith and expectancy, but he had to overcome the voices surrounding him saying there was no hope for his daughter.