

Where Is God When Life Hurts?

Mark 5:21-34





Let's Look at This Day in the Life of Jesus

“Now when Jesus had crossed over again by the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around Him: And behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue came, Jairus by name. And when he saw Him, he fell at his feet and begged Him earnestly, saying, “My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live.” So Jesus went with him, and a great crowd followed Him and thronged Him. Mark.5:21-24





- **Jairus was a Jewish leader, a big shot in the community and in the synagogue but not too proud to beg. (He falls down before Jesus expressing concern about his child)**
- **His dignity was forgotten, his pride was put aside**
- **The clock was ticking on his child; every second counted**
- **Like an ambulance stuck in heavy traffic, the crowd was a hindrance; but Jesus changes his schedule for Jairus! vs.24**



But There Is a Divine Delay!

- Mark interrupts the story of Jairus' daughter by telling us that there was a woman, with a need almost as desperate as Jairus', who had been bleeding for 12 years and couldn't stop the bleeding. She was in the crowd too!
- Verse 26 says she suffered while under many doctors and had basically run out of money. As a result she was worse off medically and financially (savings, nest egg, emergency funds all spent and now she had run out of money)
- But she reasoned (verse 28): *"If I could just touch His clothes I'll get well."* She did and He felt "her touch"


Has Jesus ever felt your touch of sincerity and faith?
Remember King Hezekiah in 2 Kings 20 when seriously ill?

- Jesus asked the crowd, "Who touched me?" Really? vs.31
 - Notice: this question wasn't for the crowd, but for her!
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Observations

- Jesus knew that His clothes had been touched by a hand of faith (some of His healing power had graciously left Him)
- Jesus knows when we are serious about Him or simply following the crowd (wife, kids, husband, mom, or dad)
- He wanted to establish a personal relationship with her, that wasn't automatically established by meeting her need
- He wanted her to know that *"it wasn't the clothes"* but her courage to step out on her faith/belief that moved Him to heal her. Hebrews 11:6
- Remember, Leviticus 15 stated that a bleeding person was ceremonially unclean under Jewish law in the O.T. They had to live "an isolated life" (worship was off limits). She had been bleeding for 12 years (she was a nobody to some)



Jesus Kept Looking Around For Her to Respond, Mark 5:33-34

“Then the woman, knowing what happened to her, came and fell at His feet and, trembling with fear, told Him the hold truth. He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

- Rather than a “reprimand from Jesus,” she got a blessing.
- He called her “daughter” which I’m told is the only time Jesus refers to anyone by that name in the gospels
- This to me signified that she not only was healed but she was “owned by her relationship” with Jesus
- It’s ironic that while Jesus was on His way to heal Jairus’ blood-kinned daughter, He “owns” this woman as a His “spiritual daughter” (no longer just a nobody in the crowd) Rom 8:17 *“If we are children then we are heirs....”*



Now How Must Jairus the Ruler Have Felt At This Point?

- We can only speculate what was going through Jairus' mind at this point in Jesus' story
- He had begged Jesus to come to his house to address his daughter's need who was in critical condition
- Jairus and Jesus head to Jairus' house and the large crowd is slowing them down (remember the clock is ticking)
- And then Jesus stopped everything and asks "Who touched me?"
- The woman comes forward and rather than giving Jesus the short version of her story, she tells "the whole truth" verse 33
- Jesus stops and addresses an unclean woman who hadn't been to the synagogue in 12 years. What was He thinking?



Observations





- **Mark's account of this story doesn't record anything about Jairus' disappointment of Jesus not "hurrying up" for him and his dying daughter**
- **Was he politely trying to stay quiet so that he wouldn't upset Jesus and as a result, He would refuse to come with him at all?**
- **Was he about to have a heart attack if Jesus didn't "pick up his pace?" How patient was he? Where is God when life hurts?**
- **What we do know is that Jesus knew all along what He would do in performing a miracle that would make many of His other miracles pale in comparison**





So What Do We Learn from a Personal Standpoint?

There Was a Delay in God's Timetable That Jairus Accepted

- **Jairus had to wait for what I'm sure seemed like an eternity for God to work. Yet it was all according to God's timetable. Other waiting examples are in the Bible:**
 - **Remember when Jesus was told that Lazarus, His friend, was sick; the Bible says that He decided to wait two more days before going to visit Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha. By the time He got there, Lazarus had been dead for 3 days.**
 - **Why would He do that? *"Lord, if you had been here...."***
 - **John 11:4, "for the glory of God" (to put God on display)**
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But This is Us:

I Want My Blessing and I Want It Now!

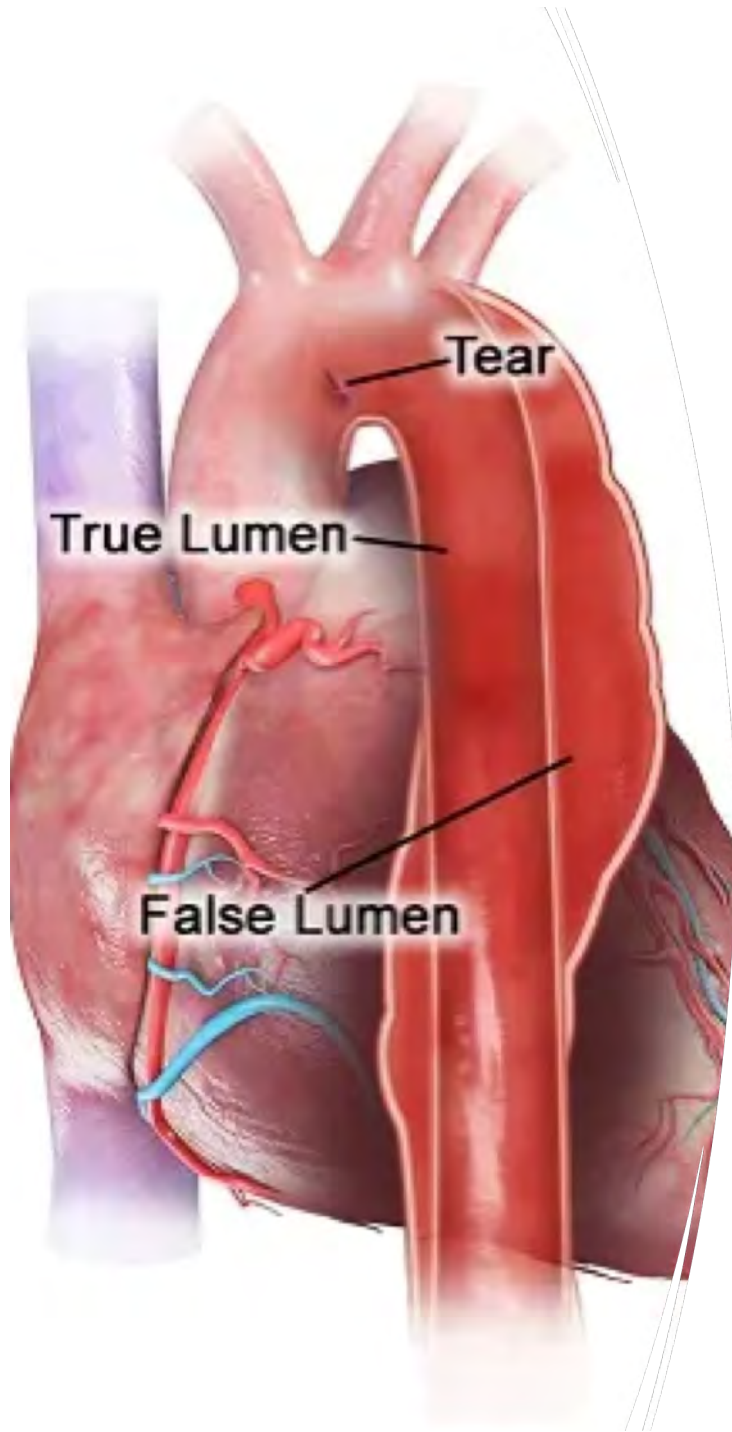
- **We want God to act on our timetable! Or else!**
- **But God is not bound by our schedule; Isaiah 55:8-9**
- **He operates on His own schedule for His own purposes**
- **He wants us to trust Him to know what He is doing and when He should do it; Proverbs 3:5-6**
- **And when we accept His schedule it deepens our faith**



One of Medical Sciences True Medical Emergencies!

**Aortic Artery Dissection
1986 Anniston Memorial
Hospital, Anniston Alabama**

**Dr. James Kirklin,
Cardiothoracic Surgeon on Call
the Night My Father was flown
over by helicopter**



The Fern and
the Chinese
Bamboo
Tree Both
Live in the
Forest

The Fern's seed
drops to the
ground and
comes out of
the ground the
next year and
grows a few
feet high



The Chinese Bamboo Seed
Doesn't Emerge From the
Ground For 5 Years

Once it comes out, it can
grow as high as 100 feet in
6 months

What's is going on during
those 5 years?

It's growing strong roots in
the Ground to support it



What's the Point?

- God has a timetable for the Fern to Grow
- God has a timetable for the Bamboo Tree to Grow
- God has a timetable for you and me to Grow
- When we face delays and interruptions in our plans, realize that God is deepening our faith (roots), and has His own plans for you and me:

“... For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11





The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

