

## A Study of Mark – Lesson 13

### Mark 5:21-43 A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman

#### Jesus Raises a Dead Girl and Heals a Sick Woman

5<sup>21</sup> When Jesus had again crossed over by boat / to the other side of the lake, / a large crowd gathered around him / while he was by the lake. / <sup>22</sup> Then one of the synagogue rulers, / named Jairus, / came there. / Seeing Jesus, / he fell at his feet / <sup>23</sup> and pleaded earnestly with him, / “My little daughter is dying. / Please come / and put your hands on her / so that she will be healed / and live.” / <sup>24</sup> So Jesus went with him. /

A large crowd followed / and pressed around him. / <sup>25</sup> And a woman was there / who had been subject to bleeding / for twelve years. / <sup>26</sup> She had suffered a great deal / under the care of many doctors / and had spent all she had, / yet instead of getting better / she grew worse. / <sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus, / she came up behind him / in the crowd / and touched his cloak, / <sup>28</sup> because she thought, / “If I just touch his clothes, / I will be healed.” / <sup>29</sup> Immediately / her bleeding stopped / and she felt in her body / that she was freed from her suffering. /

<sup>30</sup> At once / Jesus realized / that power had gone out from him. / He turned around in the crowd / and asked, / “Who touched my clothes?” /

<sup>31</sup> “You see the people crowding against you,” / his disciples answered, / “and yet you can ask, / 'Who touched me?' “ /

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<sup>32</sup> But Jesus kept looking around / to see who had done it. /  
<sup>33</sup> Then the woman, / knowing what had happened to her, / came  
and fell at his feet / and, / trembling with fear, / told him the  
whole truth. / <sup>34</sup> He said to her, / “Daughter, / your faith has  
healed you. / Go in peace / and be freed / from your suffering.” /

<sup>35</sup> While Jesus was still speaking, / some men came / from the  
house of Jairus, / the synagogue ruler. / “Your daughter is  
dead,” / they said. / “Why bother the teacher any more?” /

<sup>36</sup> Ignoring what they said, / Jesus told the synagogue ruler, /  
“Don't be afraid; / just believe.” /

<sup>37</sup> He did not let anyone follow him / except Peter, / James / and  
John the brother of James. / <sup>38</sup> When they came to the home / of  
the synagogue ruler, / Jesus saw a commotion, / with people  
crying / and wailing loudly. / <sup>39</sup> He went in / and said to them, /  
“Why all this commotion and wailing? / The child is not dead /  
but asleep.” / <sup>40</sup> But they laughed at him. /

After he put them all out, / he took the child's father / and  
mother / and the disciples who were with him, / and went in /  
where the child was. / <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand / and said to  
her, / “Talitha koum!” / (which means, / “Little girl, / I say to  
you, / get up!” / <sup>42</sup> Immediately / the girl stood up / and walked  
around / (she was twelve years old). / At this / they were  
completely astonished. / <sup>43</sup> He gave strict orders / not to let  
anyone know about this, / and told them / to give her something  
to eat. /

## ***Vocabulary***

1. **Synagogue:** The Jewish place of worship. Contrast the Temple in Jerusalem with a synagogue.
2. **Pharisee:** member of an ancient Jewish religious group ; A self-righteous or hypocritical person.
3. **Commotion:** noisy confusion or activity. uproar, turmoil, disorder.
4. **To wail:** loud crying.
5. **To plead:** To beg.
6. **To tremble:** To shake or to quiver.

## ***Questions***

1. Again, Jesus crosses the Sea of Galilee, probably at Capernaum.
2. Jarius was one of the rulers of the synagogue. What were his duties?
3. Do you think Jarius would have been a Pharisee? What is a Pharisee?
4. The Pharisees disapproved of Jesus and followed him around hoping to find some fault. Why would Jarius turn to Jesus for help?
5. What is a story within a story?
6. What help did the woman need? Why did she just touch his robe?
7. What kind of faith did the woman demonstrate?
8. For a woman to reach out and touch a man was wrong. If she was bleeding, she was “unclean.” Why did she do it?
9. How did Jesus know he had been touched for healing? Does helping other people cost us something, too?

10. Jesus was told that Jarius' daughter was dead. Why did he go on?
11. What are some of the funeral rituals of Jesus' time?
12. What are some funeral rituals of today?
13. "Talitha koum!" is Aramaic language. Why do we feel this story is totally true and an eye witness account?
14. What language did Jesus speak? Peter?

### **Notes**

1. This story within a story takes place as Jesus is walking from one town to another. By this time, Jesus was basically banned from the synagogues.
2. The synagogue was the center of local worship and the ruler or leader was the chief man in the town or village. To come to Jesus, he had to swallow his pride, for it was quite unusual for a person of position to fall at the feet of a traveling teacher.
3. Luke tells us the girl was an only child.
4. Funeral customs can be seen in this passage. Dead people were buried within hours and it was not unusual for the unconscious to be buried alive. The public mourners were already hired to cry and wail loudly. This was necessary and like an announcement of death. It still happens in countries today.
5. The woman was "unclean" because she was bleeding. To be in a crowd of people took great courage. She had been ill for years and was truly an outcast. By doing this publicly Jesus showed that touching his cloak did not heal her, but the power of God did so.