

The Desperate Dad

June 20, 2010

Turn to Luke **8:40** as we look at a desperate dad. This can also be found in **Mark 5:21**. “So it was, when Jesus returned.” Jesus had just returned from Capernaum, the headquarters of His earthly ministry. “So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude.” He was at the peak of His ministry. He has been ministering now for approx. 1.5 years, and the mighty miracle ministry of Jesus is drawing enormous crowds.

In **Matthew 5:25**, we see where it says enormous crowds are now following Jesus everywhere He went. He is at the peak of His ministry, miracles are happening everywhere He goes, and in the midst of all this **a desperate, driven dad appears**.

“So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him.” **Verse 41**: “And behold there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue.” The synagogue was the center of all activities in every town of that day. The synagogue determined everything you did.

So Jairus was a **blessed** man. He was a man of **prominence and prestige**. He was a man of great **possessions**. He was a man of **prosperity and power**. In Judaism, it was the religious folk who continued to fight Jesus. Here is a very religious man who has it made, but at that moment none of that mattered because **he has a problem**.

What you think is important this morning may not be important this evening if a life and death situation arises. All of Jairus’ achievements and accomplishments meant nothing because his daughter was dying. Look at **Verse 42**. It doesn’t say how long she has been sick, but she is now in the last stages of life and is dying.

This father is facing a crisis. Have you ever faced one? **This man is in need of a miracle**. Have you ever been in need of a miracle? Here is a highly religious leader in the town of Capernaum, who is known by the majority of the multitude that is circling Jesus, who presses through the crowd and dismisses his dignity. He is probably risking his profession, but look at what he does. **He falls on his face**. We need to humble ourselves before the Lord!

In the Middle East in Bible times, when you fell on your face, you literally fell with your face to the ground. You paid homage to whomever you were bowing before. You were declaring that you were putting yourself under their authority; but here is Jairus, the head of the synagogue, who drops to his knees. **Verse 41** says, “and he fell down at Jesus’ feet and begged Him to come to his house.” He was **broken, bowing, and begging**.

In **Mark 5:23**, it says, “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.’” That was powerful. He came with a **prayerful** request. He was begging. His request was **positive**. He believed what he was asking Jesus to do. This father has left his dying daughter and has **personally** come to Jesus.

He didn't send his wife. Most men will send their wives to do their dirty work. When we have someone come into the office asking for financial assistance, the majority of the time it's the woman who comes in. The man is sitting outside in the car. If you're the head of the house, you ought to take some responsibility for your house. This man risked everything he had for the sake of this daughter whom he loved. Who knows that love will cause you to do some crazy stuff?

This man prayed a powerful, passionate prayer, but Jesus didn't say a word. He just started walking. **Verse 42** says He followed Jairus to his house. Here is a great revelation for anybody that wants one. **Humanity now is leading divinity.** A human being by the name of Jairus is leading the Son of the Living God. I don't know about you, but I don't want to be leading God anywhere. I want Him to be leading me!

It seems like the church world today wants to do its own thing, then ask God to bless it. God will bless it when He leads in it. Do you know when God will provide? When God guides, He provides. If you will follow His guidance, He will bring the provision; but when you go out on your own, you are on your own!

The Son of God doesn't say one word in reply to Jairus' request for Him to come to his house. He just starts following him. **Verse 42** also says, "the multitudes thronged Him." That means, as Jesus began to move, the crowd began to move. Thousands are following Jesus as Jesus is following Jairus, but watch what happens. **There is a disastrous delay.**

In the midst of this crowd, heading toward Jairus' house, there was a woman that caused Jesus to delay getting to Jairus' house. This woman makes a confession about Jesus. In **Mark 5:28**, she says, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." She kept saying it over and over. She was building up her faith. She kept talking to herself.

She makes a **confession** about Jesus, and then in the midst of this parade, she makes **contact** with Jesus. Confession is one thing, but you have to put your words into action. **When she makes contact with Jesus, it creates a cure.** She grabs hold of His clothing, and He stops. An unscheduled appointment shows up and stops the parade.

Jairus is ahead of Jesus and may not have sensed that the crowd had stopped behind him. So when he looks back, there is some distance between him and the crowd. In **Luke 8:45** Jesus says, "Who touched Me?" There were thousands of people around Him, and Peter says, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" This may have caused Peter to chuckle, but Jairus didn't. Right now, the parade has come to a halt.

Have you ever had to wait for an answer? Jesus stops and is waiting for a response, but no one moves. He continues to wait, but Jairus is not excited about this delay. This is a disastrous delay. Eventually this woman steps out of the crowd, and the Bible says she confessed everything that had happened to her. You know that if this woman is giving a testimony about being sick for 12 years and spending everything she had on physicians, that it took a while.

Finally, Jesus says to her in **Verse 48**, “You are whole.” The Bible says that when she touched Him, immediately the blood flow stopped, but now He tells her she is whole. Jesus not only touched her physically, but He saved her soul.

Getting healed in your body may seem like the greatest thing in the world, but if you leave lost, you are still heading toward hell. This woman not only needed her body healed, but she needed her soul healed. Jesus waited so He could save her soul.

While Jesus was still speaking, discouraging news arrived. Just as Jesus was telling this woman that her faith had made her whole, a messenger comes to Jairus and this is his word. **Verse 49**: “Your daughter is dead.” Then the messenger says, “Do not trouble the Teacher.”

Be careful what and whom you listen to. Here is a good revelation. Garbage in, garbage out. Some of you are in certain battles because of whom and what you listen to, because faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. The Word of God has to be communicated to you.

Just as faith can be communicated to you and build up the inner man, it’s also true with fear. Fear has torment. It will grip you and paralyze your faith, and many times words can paralyze you. A doctor can give you a bad report, but your doctor does not hold your times in his hands. Your times are in God’s hands, not man’s hands!

Jairus receives discouraging news. Why did it happen? It happened because Jesus lingered a little longer. This delay, the detaining of our Master, gave death entrance into Jairus’ house.

When people don’t have their prayers answered or their needs met, they throw up their hands and quit. I’ve seen it happen. There are people in this world today who literally hate God because of something tragic that happened in their lives. The Word says it will rain on the just, and it will rain on the unjust. Bad things happen to good people. Good people have devastating things happen to them.

When I can’t hold onto His hand, He will hold onto my hand! When I don’t know where I am, He knows where I am! The Bible tells me that MY God can keep me from falling. He is the keeper of my soul.

Jairus is holding on, and there may come a time when all you and I can do is hold on. Some of you live by feelings, and I’m here to tell you that you had better get over that, because there will come a time in your life when all you can do is hold on by sheer faith and total trust!

When the disastrous, discouraging news arrived that Jairus’ daughter was dead, Jesus ignores it. He pays no attention to the news. Be careful whom and what you listen to. **A divine declaration is announced.** Look at what Jesus says in **Verse 50**. “Do not be afraid.” That is easy to say but tough to do. Then Jesus says, “Only believe.” It’s continual action.

Here is what Jesus was saying. “Jairus, you came to Me believing. Don’t stop now. Just because the situation has intensified, just because it looks worse now than when it did when you left home,

don't stop believing. Don't throw your faith away. Keep believing."

I don't care whether you feel God or not. Just keep on believing. How close are you to your miracle? Why do you think the devil is tightening his screws on you? You are closer to your miracle today than you were yesterday! Keep believing.

When Jesus gets to Jairus' house, there are mourners there; and He takes in with Him only Peter, James, John, and the girl's parents. In **Verse 52** Jesus says, "Do not weep, she is not dead but sleeping." That is how God looks at the death of a body. Her spirit had left her body, and her body was asleep.

When Jesus says that she is asleep, the mourners became mockers. In **Verse 53**, they started ridiculing Jesus. So Jesus threw them out of the house. Jesus was a guest in Jairus' house, but He threw those mockers out. When Jesus clears the house, the Master makes a divine declaration. He takes the dead girl's hand and says, "Little girl, arise."

Verse 55 says, "Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately." In **Verse 56** it says, "And her parents were astonished." That was an understatement. **Mark 5:43** says, "They were overcome with great amazement." Jesus says, "Give her something to eat." Then He turns to the parents and says, "Do not tell anyone what has happened." He told them not to tell anyone. How many know they didn't have to tell anyone?

Remember, the mockers are still outside. I don't know how long it was, but Jesus, Peter, James and John left; and after a while, mom and dad went outside. Then the little girl went out.

Who will YOU turn to in YOUR hour of need? Thank God this little girl had a dad that **sought Jesus, believed in Jesus, and who invited Jesus into his house**. Here is the key. Jesus loves us, and He is trying to wake us up. Eternity is close at hand.