

STORY

Jesus Raises the Daughter of Jairus - Luke 8:40-56; Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, I know that death is not natural but a result of the sin that infects us all. Many would teach that death is the normal way of evolution, but You created the world to live, not die. Help me to teach my students that You are the God of Life. You through Your Spirit reverse spiritual death through faith in Jesus and reunite us with You as your beloved Children. We also know that when physical death is finally ended on the last day, just as Jesus rose, we will be raised and You will keep all believers from eternal death and give to us instead eternal life with Jesus. Send Your Spirit as I share Your Word that all who hear may have life in Jesus' name. Amen.

VOCABULARY

Synagogue - The local church of the Jews.

Thronged/ throng - people crowded around Him very closely.

Talitha Cumi - Aramaean words, translated in the text, "Little girl, arise." This was the language spoken by the people of Palestine at that time.

Charged - Jesus urgently commanded them.

OUTER AIM

Jesus shows His power over sickness and death.

INNER AIM

Faith in Jesus gives us life.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol. 2, pp. 142-148)

The gospel of Luke stresses Jesus' compassion as He helps people where He finds them and in their deepest needs. This section stresses the power of faith in Jesus. Jesus' power calls forth the response of faith. May the Holy Spirit give us a faith like this.

Luke 8:40

- ▶ Jesus had left the region to preach and heal in the country of the Gaderenes.
- ▶ There His power scared the people so that they asked Him to leave.
- ▶ On His return to the west side of the Sea of Galilee, crowds of people again came to hear Him and be healed.

v. 41

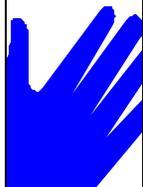
- ▶ Jairus was a ruler or leader of the local synagogue. See Rupprecht p 143-144 to learn more.
- ▶ He showed Jesus great respect by pleading at Jesus' feet.

v. 42

- ▶ Jairus' only daughter was at the point of death when Jairus sought out Jesus.
- ▶ In Jewish culture, daughters were considered of age, an adult woman, at the age of 12. (Rupprecht p 145)
- ▶ But Jesus was met with delays before He could answer the request.

v. 43

- ▶ God does not give cures for some sicknesses to doctors.
- ▶ This woman had spent all that she had before coming to Jesus.
- ▶ Then as now, people are willing to spend great sums to find a cure for diseases, though because of sin,



there will always be sickness to remind us of sin.

v. 44

- ▶ The woman's faith was such that she believed that even by simply touching Jesus' clothes she would be healed. See also Matthew 9:21 & Mark 5:22.
- ▶ And, upon touching Jesus' garment, she was healed.
- ▶ Of course the fabric of Jesus' clothes was not powerful, but the healing power came from Jesus and went to her because of her faith in Him, not His clothes.
- ▶ Jewish law made her "unclean" and separated her from normal contact with people until the sickness should be cured.

v. 45

- ▶ Despite Jairus' daughter being at the point of dying, Jesus stopped to find out who had touched Him.
- ▶ Jesus knew what would happen with Jairus' daughter and also who had touched Him, but He stopped in order to encourage people's faith.
- ▶ Jesus' disciples thought Jesus' question strange considering how many people were closely crowded around, probably bumping into Him.
- ▶ Notice, no one would admit having touched Him.

v. 46

- ▶ Despite the disciples' confusion at Jesus' question, Jesus continued to ask for the person who touched Him and was healed.

v. 47

- ▶ With fear and trembling (see also Mark 5:33), the woman realized that Jesus knew what she had done and confessed her act of faith in front of the people.

v. 48

- ▶ With loving compassion, Jesus called her "daughter," stilled her fear, and assured her that her faith was well placed in Jesus.
- ▶ She should go in peace, knowing that He had cured her.

v. 49

- ▶ This intentional delay by Jesus had the result that the daughter of Jairus died.
- ▶ The servants brought the message with a discouragement to the faith of Jairus.
- ▶ They didn't know or believe that Jesus could be of any further help.

v. 50

- ▶ But Jesus called Jairus to continue to believe in Jesus' power despite the seeming finality of death.
- ▶ Jesus promised that she who was now dead would be made well. What a difficult promise to believe.

v. 51

- ▶ Jesus kept the crowds and onlookers outside, bringing with Him only His three closest disciples and the parents of the young girl.
- ▶ This would minimize the confusion and publicity for what was to come.

v. 52

- ▶ The Jewish custom at death in those days was to cry and weep loudly, even sometimes hiring mourners to show the great sorrow felt at the loss of a loved one (see Rupprecht p146-147).
- ▶ Jesus called for them to stop crying and believe that the girl's death wasn't final.

v. 53

- ▶ To human experience, death is final and not just sleeping.
- ▶ So they, not knowing or believing in Jesus and His power over death, laughed at His apparently foolish description of death.

v. 54

- ▶ Jesus sent the mourners away, keeping only the three disciples and the parents with Him.
- ▶ Then, Jesus took her by the hand, and commanded the girl to get up.
- ▶ Notice in Mark 5:41, Peter has remembered the exact words of Christ used.
- ▶ Peter was one of the eyewitnesses then. (Mark wrote down the Gospel as Peter had told it to him.)

v. 55

- ▶ Again, the response to Jesus' words was immediate and complete.
- ▶ Her spirit returned to her body.
- ▶ She got up immediately and even walked as Mark tells us.
- ▶ There was no long recovering of strength or nursing back to health from the edge of death. She was fully alive and healthy.
- ▶ Jesus with understanding, commanded them to bring her something to eat, which also implies that she was well.

v. 56

- ▶ Her parents, including her father who had waited until the last minute to seek help from Jesus, were totally astonished at this miracle.
- ▶ But Jesus strictly commanded them not to tell anyone what had happened.
- ▶ He didn't want people to come to Him only because of the great miracles that He did but rather to see Him as their Savior.

STUDENT PRAYER

Dear Lord Jesus, we have learned that even death must bow to Your command for You are the God of Life. Help us, oh Lord, to call upon You for all our needs, however great or small they might seem. If, in Your wisdom, You delay Your help, teach us to be patient in faith, trusting that You will give us the help that we need. For we know that we must patiently live our lives in faith until you call us from this life to the eternal life you have won for us through Your own death and resurrection. We pray, patiently trusting in You, Lord Jesus. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Briefly review previous story as time allows. Make links to the new story when possible.

Tell the story: Teachers, be encouraged to tell the story in your own words while remaining faithful to the scriptural account. When scripture records the story in more than one place, you may want to harmonize the accounts (including extra details found in each account). Let the students know where they can find the additional details in the Bible.

Discuss the story: While reviewing the major events of the story, discuss the possible applications to the students' lives. Ask questions that make them think about the story and show that they understand the story.

APPLICATIONS

1. This is a good opportunity to talk about death. Death can be defined as "separation". The Bible describes three forms of death: 1) Spiritual death - separation of a person's soul from God by sin and unbelief. John 3 talks of this as Jesus tells Nicodemus that sinful people must be born again by the Spirit who creates and sustains faith in Jesus. See also Isaiah 59:2; 2) Physical death - separation of the soul

from the body until God reunites them on Judgement Day or in the few miracles God records in the Bible. From this story notice in verse 55 the girl's spirit returned to her body at Jesus' command and she was alive. And 3) Eternal death - the eternal separation of the unbelievers' body and soul from God for all eternity. Stress that sin brought death (Genesis 2:17; 3:1-19 Romans 5:12ff). It is not natural as the evolutionists claim. But, Jesus has the power over death through His death and resurrection as Paul tells us (1 Corinthians 15). So, even though for time we are separated from those who die, yet in eternity we will be reunited with those who believed on Jesus as their Savior from sin.

2. This story also encourages us to patiently believe when we make requests to God. The woman's faith humbly looked to Jesus to heal what no other person was able to help her with. Jairus surely felt the clock ticking for his sick daughter as Jesus was delayed by the sick woman needing healing and encouragement in her faith. When the servant came and announced his daughter's death, that could have caused the death of Jairus' faith and hope. Yet, Jesus bolstered his faith with a renewed promise that death would not prevent Jesus from making her well. God with His words, comforts and encourages us to continue in faith even in what seems the most hopeless of situations. And, as He did for Jairus, God proves that such patient faith is not in vain, for with God all things are possible.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

John 11:25 - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

Middle any of the above and...

Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Romans 5:12 - Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Upper any of the above and...

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 - O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 - But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

HYMN CHOICES

"Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense" (TLH 206)

"If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee" (TLH 518)

"Commit Whatever Grieves Thee" (TLH 520 1,6)