

## Why are You Sad? Mark 5:21-43

ETS: Jesus demonstrated that fear can be overruled by faith

ESS: Jesus challenges us to overrule our fear with faith in Him

OSS: I want people to allow fear to overrule their faith.

PQ: Are you allowing your fear to overrule your faith?

UW: Ways

### **ME**

How often have you said,

- “Only 1 more cookie and then I’m done!”
- I’m going to stop after I complete this round on my game?
- I’m going to bed by 10:00 pm no matter what
- I’m going to limit my time on the computer to 2 hours a day
- I’m not going to drive at night

Right now during the COVID-19 scare, you may have put limits on yourself....

- I’m going only to the grocery store
  - Or, I’m not going to the grocery store

- I'm not going to leave my house
- I won't touch anything without having on gloves

WE all put limitations on ourselves.

**REALITY: We could go beyond those limitations if we really wanted to or needed to!**

- You could eat more than 1 more cookie
- You could keep playing your game after you completed the round
- You can go to the grocery store if you needed
- You could drive at night if you had to

**Georgene Johnson**

- 42-year-old secretary
- Slated to run in a 10-kilometer race
- Got to the starting line 15 minutes early.
  - She thought she was starting the 10 kilometer race; instead she realized once she took off with the rest of the group of 4,000 runners, that she was in the group running the 26 mile Revco-Cleveland Marathon!
    - She was in the wrong race
      - Her race started 15 minutes after the marathon
- Rather than quit, she hung on to finish the 26 mile race!

- “As stupid as I felt out there running, I’m proud of myself
- . “I guess I was in better shape than I thought. I feel fine, although my knees are real sore this morning.”

The 10-K (6.2 mile) race, was to start at 8:45 a.m., the marathon 15 minutes earlier.

- Both Revco-Cleveland races used the same starting line.
- Four miles down the road, as the route left downtown and moved into residential areas, she said she “got that sick feeling that possibly I was in the wrong race.”
  - Another runner confirmed her suspicions. Johnson finished the marathon in **4:04, good enough for 83<sup>rd</sup>** place in the women’s division.
    - Her longest run previously was 8 miles.

**REALITY: We could go further than we think if we really wanted to or needed to!**

WHY do we place limitations on what we can do?

- Afraid we CAN’T do it and will be seen as a failure
- Afraid of **negative consequences**

WE not only place limitations on ourselves ;WE also place limitations on God!

You may have had a knee-jerk reaction to what I just said!

- You may have said “I don’t place limitations on God!”

REALITY: *We DON’T often place limitations on God CONSIIOUSLY!*

- We would often deny that we limit God.
  - However, we often respond to God in such a way that shows that in reality we have **limited God subconsciously.**
    - **While we say we believe God we also, at the same time, limit God subconsciously.**

When we place limitations on God, we are allowing our FEAR to Overrule our Faith!

**Don’t let Fear Overrule Your Faith!**

**HOW do we allow fear to overrule our faith?**

**WHY do we allow our fear to overrule our faith?**

**GOD**

## Turn to Mark 5

Jesus has been crisscrossing the Sea of Galilee.



**Mark 5:21** “When Jesus had crossed over again by boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around Him while He was by the sea

- Location: Sea of Galilee
  - West side: Galilee
  - East side: Decapolis
    - Decapolis = Deca = 10; polis = City (10 cities)
      - 10 Greek cities

Jesus had come for the west-side of the Sea of Galilee

- He healed a demon-possessed man
- Demons went into the pigs
  - Upset the townspeople

So Jesus gets into a boat and He goes across the Sea of Galilee to the East Side known as the Decapolis

- The Sea of Galilee is about 4 miles wide at it widest point and they were NOT at the widest point, so it was not difficult for people to walk around the upper portion of the Sea of Galilee—which is where they were—to the other side

**Mark 5:22-23:** “One of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at His feet <sup>23</sup> and kept begging Him, “My little daughter is at death’s door. Come and lay Your hands on her so she can get well and live.”

There is a lot to say about **Jarius** who approaches Jesus.

- **Jarius is a concerned parent.**
  - **Luke** tells us she was his only daughter.
  - **Luke** tells us the girl was 12 years old

WHO is Jarius?

- “One of the synagogue leaders”

A **synagogue** was the place where the Jewish people would gather for worship and instruction in the Torah (the Law)

- The synagogues were often used as a teaching place for Jesus
  - The New Testament records more than 10 occasions on which the ministry of Jesus took place in the synagogue.
    - The Gospels record that "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues."

As a “**Leader in one of the synagogues**” Jarius’ role would have been to

- Supervise the maintenance of the synagogue
- Organizing the prayer services
- Be a teacher of the synagogue school
- He would announce the coming Sabbath with blasts on the shofar (ram's horn).
- He also cared for the Torah scrolls and other sacred writings and brought them out at the appropriate times (Luke 4:1-20).

**Jarius** was an important religious person in that community!

Unfortunately, Jesus and the synagogue leaders did not always see eye-to-eye!

- In **Luke 4** **Jesus** made the people in the synagogue in His hometown of **Nazareth** angry when He proclaimed that He was the **fulfillment** of **Isaiah’s** prophecy.
  - **Matthew** says that the people in the synagogue of Jesus’ hometown of Nazareth were “**offended**” by Him.
- John tells us in **John 6** that when Jesus taught in the synagogue at **Capernaum** (which was on the east-side of the sea of Galilee—where Jesus had just come from) that “Many of His disciples left

Him” because they could not handle Jesus’ teaching about Himself.

Jesus had made a lot of people mad in the local synagogues with His teachings and by performing miracles on the Sabbath Day!

- It is possible that **some of those rulers** were **Jarius’ friends**.
  - I’m sure Jarius was well aware of the controversy surrounding Jesus!

ANY parent—who thinks there is a chance of healing their child—will do what it takes!

- **Jarius is willing to accept any criticism for seeking out Jesus!**
  - Because Jarius was a ruler in the local Jewish synagogue, he knew that to approach Jesus would mean certain **ridicule** for **himself**.
    - But Jarius was **desperate** and he was **willing to lose his friends** if he could save his daughter.
  - **It took a lot of faith to simply make the trip out from the local town to the sea shore and seek out Jesus and ask Him to come and help.**
    - Jarius made the journey—was willing to lose friends (and maybe his position at

the synagogue because he believed Jesus could heal his daughter!

### PROBLEM:

- While I feel bad for even criticizing Jarius, there was a problem here.
  - It is not readily seen.
    - Certainly his actions do not give it away!
      - However, if you **listen closely to Jarius plea**, you see a *problem that WE all struggle with*.

### HOW do we allow our fear to overrule our faith? **Subconsciously Limit God's Ability**

Look at his plea again in **verse 23**: “My little daughter is at death’s door. Come and lay Your hands on her so she can get well and live.”

- Jarius wants Jesus to come heal his daughter *before* she dies!
  - Of course, who wouldn’t ask Jesus to heal their child *before* they die.
- However, the fact that Jarius felt that *Jesus must make it to his house before his daughter dies*, indicates a **subconscious limitation** that he had erected concerning Jesus’ power.

## **Resurrection is not a common thing!**

- People just did not come back to life.
  - Death is final; the end.

Jarius' response shows that he thought there was a possibility that Jesus could heal his daughter while she was still alive, *but if Jesus didn't make it there in time and she died, then all hope was lost.*

Obviously, this was the **same feeling that everyone else had.**

- Because the reality was that she does die before Jesus gets there and in **verse 35** we read: **While He was still speaking, people came from the synagogue leader's house and said, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher anymore?"**
  - The general idea was that **death was final** and ***no one*** could raise a person from the dead!

Just like Jarius and his servants, WE set up limitations when it comes to God.

- Often we set up those barriers **subconsciously.**
  - On the surface we say we believe, but inwardly we wonder if the situation is **beyond God's ability.**

For example, we say that we believe that God will supply all of our *needs*, but too often we panic if things get too close for comfort. We begin to let fear overrule our faith.

**Mark 5:24** “So Jesus went with him, and a large crowd was following and pressing against Him.”

The Situation:

Jarius has come to Jesus with an **urgent request** that Jesus come to his house and heal his daughter before she dies.

- Jesus responds to Jarius’ requests and begins to follow Jarius back to the town to see his daughter.
- As Jesus is following Jarius, the crowd is following Jesus and they are **pressing** in around Him Jesus
  - They want to be close to Jesus—they want to touch Him.
    - In the midst of all the body contact comes this incident as they are traveling to Jarius’ house.

**Mark 5:25-28:** “A woman suffering from bleeding for 12 years <sup>26</sup> had endured much under many doctors. She had spent everything she had and was not helped at all. On the contrary, she became worse. <sup>27</sup> Having heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in

the crowd and touched His robe. <sup>28</sup> For she said, “If I can just touch His robes, I’ll be made well!”

Just like Jarius, this woman was at the end of her rope.

- She had spent all her money on doctors, she had had all the tests; yet she was still very sick.
  - For **12 years** she had been sick. It is interesting that this woman had been sick for the same amount of years that Jarius’ daughter had been alive.

Jesus was **her last hope**; just like Jesus was the **last hope** for Jarius’ daughter!

- On the surface, Jesus knew about Jarius’ daughter because He had been told and He was heading to her house.
  - **Jesus had not been told** about this woman.
    - In fact, we don’t really know much about her either. **Scripture never reveals her name only her problem.**

In the midst of all the pressing and crowd-crunching around Jesus, Mark states in **verse 27** that this woman comes up *behind* Jesus and touches His garments.

- Notice, she doesn’t even talk to Him and He doesn’t see her face.

- She is just another member of the crowd.
- Her affliction is not an outward, visible affliction.
- So on the surface, no one would know about it.
- On the surface, she was just another woman wanting to touch the garment of Jesus.

But notice her faith in **verse 28: If I can just touch His robes, I'll be made well!**" (HCSB)

Notice, this is all an **internal dialogue** she is having with herself.

- She is not broadcasting her intentions or desire or faith to anyone!

Let's review what is happening here:

- Unidentified woman
- Coming up from *behind* Jesus
- Inward problem—no outward signs visible to the crowd.
- Inward dialogue. She is not telling anyone her intent
- She is just one of the crowd.

**Mark 5:29** “Instantly her flow of blood ceased, and she sensed in her body that she was cured of her affliction.

- Although no one else knew what happened she did.
  - The **healing** was **immediate** and **complete**.

Like Jarius, she had approached the situation with a **subconscious assumption**. Her assumption was that **Jesus would not know who she was**.

- She thought that she could **remain anonymous!**
- She was **hoping** to get **healed** and **go home** without being **recognized**.
- Perhaps her desire to be **anonymous** was due to the **sensitivity** of her **illness**.

**Don't let Fear Overrule Your Faith!**

**HOW do we allow fear to overrule our faith?**

**Subconsciously Limit God's Knowledge**

Subconsciously, she had set-up a limitation concerning God's knowledge that is why Jesus' response takes her and others totally by surprise.

**Mark 5:30:** “At once Jesus realized in Himself that power had gone out from Him. He turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My robes?”

Jesus suddenly stops and turns to the crowd and asks who touched Him. Now, if you were there you would wonder why Jesus would ask such a silly question like “**who touched me?**”

Your response would probably be that of the disciples: **Mark 5:31:** “**His disciples said to Him, ‘You see the crowd pressing against You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ ’**”

- Do you detect a little sarcasm here?

It is obvious that a lot of people were touching Jesus so to ask such a question seems a little ridiculous.

The disciples had the **same subconscious attitude** as the woman.

- **They had subconsciously set-up limitations concerning God’s knowledge.**

WHY did Jesus ask that question?

Did He not really know who had touched Him?

- **Jesus knew who had touched Him after all He is the same Jesus that could perceive people’s thoughts.**

WHY did Jesus ask that question?

- Because He wanted to **establish a personal relationship** with the **healed woman**.
  - *It is not a question of whether or not God knows who you are (He knows), it is the fact that God wants to establish a relationship with you.*

Is it possible that others who were “**pressing**” in on Jesus needed healing too? Yes. Yet we see no record of other people being healed this way. Why?

- Again, Jesus in **His knowledge as God** knew that this was going to happen.
- He **knew** that this **woman** was **going to touch** His outer garments in faith believing that He had the power to heal her.

*Jesus knew this was going to happen so He allowed the power to go out from Himself to heal her.*

**God’s knowledge is not limited.**

Too many people—including Christians--have put **subconscious limitations** on how much God knows about them.

- We think that that **God doesn’t know** about **our condition** but He does.
- We think that God **doesn’t know** what we are **thinking**, but He does.

- God knows us **intimately**.
- He sees what others do not see.
- God knows how to heal what others cannot heal.

God knows all about you. He knows about your **hurts**, your **desires**, your **faith** or lack of it. God is willing to help you if you will come to Him believing. You can tell God anything because He already knows.

**Mark 5:32-34:** “So He was looking around to see who had done this. <sup>33</sup> Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came with fear and trembling, fell down before Him, and told Him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> “Daughter,” He said to her, “your faith has made you well. Go in peace and be free from your affliction.”

- Jesus wanted to **establish a personal relationship** with the **healed woman**.
  - He wanted to speak to her
  - He wanted to show affection toward her: “Daughter”
    - He wanted this **previously isolated woman**—due to her illness—to have a personal connection once again!

PROBLEM: This was eating up time!!

I am sure that when Jesus stopped and began to ask who touched Him, that **Jarius' heart sank**.

- **Jarius was in a hurry to get Jesus to his house before his daughter died.**
  - I am sure that when **Jesus immediately responded to his request** that he was **excited**, but then to have **Jesus stop and begin an inquisition** over a **seemingly impossible** task of determining who touched him, **Jarius felt the hope began to deflate** and the **fear begin to take over**.
    - I can imagine that Jarius is thinking **“Come on Jesus, hurry up! Did you forget that my daughter is dying!”**

Did Jesus know that His delay meant Jarius daughter was going to die before He could get there? Yes.

Why do I think so?

- Well this wasn't the only time that Jesus would not rush to the scene of a dying person.
  - Later, He would delay coming to **Lazarus** and the result was that Lazarus died and had been buried by the time Jesus arrives.

**Don't let Fear Overrule Your Faith!**

Why would Jesus allow Himself to be delayed?

- I think it was to illustrate another reason HOW we begin to allow our fear to overrule our faith.

**HOW do we allow fear to overrule our faith?**

**Subconsciously Limit God's Timing**

**Mark 5:35:** “While He was still speaking, people came from the synagogue leader’s house and said, “Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher anymore?”

Jesus is having a **conversation with this woman** and is standing there on the road when people from the synagogue come out and say: “**It’s too late!**”

- As far as they are concerned, Jesus had **missed** His chance!
  - Jesus’ **timing was bad.**
  - He was **too slow.**

The situation had gone from critical to impossible.

When Jarius hears the news, his fear must have seemed to have won out.

- Remember, Jarius was banking on Jesus getting there **before his daughter died.**

- Now she is dead and Jesus is standing out on the road talking to a woman, a commoner, who had snuck up behind Him and touched His garment in hopes of being healed.

Jarius and others had placed a time-limit on God's ability to intervene!

**HOW do we allow fear to overrule our faith?**  
**Subconsciously Limit God's Timing**

When Jarius hears the news, his fear must have seemed to win but then Jesus, knowing what is going on in Jarius' heart, turns to him and says:

**Mark 5:36** “But when Jesus overheard what was said, He told the synagogue leader, “Don't be afraid. Only believe.”

Jesus knew that Jarius had been afraid all along.  
Afraid of what?

- Afraid that Jesus wouldn't make it there on time.
- Afraid that his daughter would die.

Now his fear has been realized.

- Before Jarius had faith that Jesus could heal, but it was **limited** faith.
- **Subconsciously** Jarius' faith was limited to the belief that Jesus could heal only as long as his daughter was alive.
  - Now, because of Jesus' seemingly poor timing, Jarius worst fear had become a reality.
    - This is a crucial time for Jarius' faith. His daughter is dead—all hope is seemingly lost.

**YOU** may feel like Jarius today. Outwardly you have come to Jesus in faith, but inwardly, subconsciously, you have had a lot of reservations. You had been leaving yourself an “out” just in case God didn't work the way you thought He would.

Now it seems that all those subconscious reservations have come true for you. So now the questions for you are what the questions were for Jarius:

- Am I going to continue to believe or am I going to give up?
- Am I going to continue to believe although all my crutches have been taken from me?
- Am I going to continue to believe although Jesus did not respond on my timetable?

- Am I going to continue to believe although all hope is seemingly lost?
- Am I going to continue to believe although everyone else has given up?

For every Christian there comes a crisis of belief.

Unfortunately, many Christians fail at this point. They give up on God. They feel that they gave Jesus a try and He didn't respond to them as they would have liked and so they turn their back on him.

Too many Christians never grow up spiritually because they allow their fear to overrule their faith.

- They seldom experience God working in their lives because they won't let Him.
- They seldom experience the joy of their salvation because they refuse to trust.
- They often live in fear of the future because they have not learned to live by faith.
  - **Jarius** has yet to experience Jesus working in his life.
  - **Jarius** has yet to experience any joy. All he has ahead of him is grief.
  - **Jarius** has been living in fear of the future because all he sees in the future is the immanent death of his daughter.

Is there any hope for Jarius?  
Is there any hope for you?

Jesus answer is a resounding “Yes.”

**HOW do we allow fear to overrule our faith?**  
**Subconsciously Limit God’s Power**

Jesus tells Jarius, “...Do not be afraid any longer, only believe.” (NASB) Literally, Jesus says: “keep on believing.”

With **no human hope** to hold onto, with no possibility of healing seemingly left, Jesus tells **Jarius** to let go of his **fear**, let go of the **limitations** he had put on God and just believe.

**Don’t Allow Fear Overrule Faith**

**HOW do we STOP allowing fear to overrule our faith?**

**Believe from on God’s perspective**

**Mark 5:37-40:** “He did not let anyone accompany Him except Peter, James, and John, James’s brother.  
<sup>38</sup> They came to the leader’s house, and He saw a commotion—people weeping and wailing loudly.

<sup>39</sup> He went in and said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep. <sup>40</sup> They started laughing at Him, but He put them all outside. He took the child’s father, mother, and those who were with Him, and entered the place where the child was.”

What happens in that house is a **clash of perspectives**.

- Jesus enters the house with three of His disciples and there in the main room are people mourning and weeping for the dead daughter.
  - Apparently, Jarius’ daughter had been dead for a little while—long enough to allow people to get there.
    - Bodies decomposed fast in that part of the world, so when one died the mourners were immediately dispatched.

Jesus and his three disciples along with the father and mother enter the house.

- They are met with weeping and wailing.
  - Why? Obviously the girl was dead and that was the end of any possibility of healing.
    - The weeping and wailing was because of **their perspective**.

Jesus asks a question based on **God’s perspective**.

- Jesus question was: “Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep.”
  - You and I must remember that God’s sees things from a different perspective.
    - A key to faith is learning to view life from God’s perspective rather than our own.
      - What we see as the end, God does not. We often see death as the end, God sees it as the beginning.

### Our Perspective

- For the Christian death is the end of time here on earth, in God’s perspective it is the beginning of eternity with Him.
- We see illness as a hardship. God sees it as a means to make us mature Christians if we will let it.
- We see illness as unfair. God sees it as an opportunity for us to bring glory to Him.
- We see things from a limited perspective, bound by time and space. God sees things from an unlimited perspective not limited by time and space.
- Our timetables are based upon our perspective. God’s timetables are based upon His perspective.

From **Jarius** perspective, his daughter's death was the worst thing that could happen.

- From **Jesus'** perspective, Jarius daughter's death was the best thing that could happen to reveal His power, authority and to help Jarius and Jesus' disciples grow in their faith.

From **Jarius** perspective, Jesus timing was off. It was too slow.

- Form Jesus' perspective, His timing was just right.

### **Belief involves seeing things from God's perspective. J**

- **esus was asking Jarius to see things from God's perspective not the human perspective.**
  - The crowd did not believe because they could not see any other possibility!

Jarius had to decide whether he was going to believe the majority who rejected Jesus' perspective or whether he was going to accept Jesus' perspective.

Notice how Jesus responds to the unbelief of the crowd.

- In **verse 40** it states that Jesus had them all **“put out”** of the house.
  - Jesus did not respond to the crowd.
  - He did not argue with them.

- He did not seek to raise the girl from the dead in their presence.
  - Jesus had them to leave His presence.

Note that God does not respond to **unbelief**.

- Later in **Chapter 6** Jesus does not do miracles in his hometown to their unbelief.

So many Christians wonder why God doesn't work in their lives the way He does in other people's lives. The answer may be because they never have let him, because unbelief is holding them back from completely following him.

Jesus' statement to the crowd illustrates **God's perspective**. He says that the girl is merely asleep.

- **Death** is not a **permanent** state with God.
- **Death** is **temporary** in **God's perspective**.

Of course, most people do not share this perspective. We tend to think of death as final. So the people, seeing this from their limited perspective, laugh at Jesus. Jesus then has then removed from the house.

Put yourself in Jarius' shoes and his wife's shoes. Jesus, the one they are placing their hope in, has just been laughed at by their friends for a seemingly

ridiculous statement that the girl is simply “asleep” when it is obvious that she is dead. Now the crowd is gone outside. Your friends think you are in the house with a delusional man.

You then make the difficult journey into the other room. You enter the room and there lying on the bed is your daughter. The last time you saw her she was alive, now she is lying there lifeless and still. There is no breath. There is no sound of talking. There are no mourners present.

All you have in that quiet room is one thing: faith.

**Faith that this man, Jesus, can do the impossible.**

You have seen your daughter’s motionless body for yourself. There is no question—she is dead.

- You stand there seeing the reality of her death, but you also stand there believing that Jesus can raise her from the dead.
- You have nothing to lose. T
- he fear is gone.
- You are believing.

**Mark 5:41-43:** “Then He took the child by the hand and said to her, “TALITHA KOUM!” (which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, get up!” ).

<sup>42</sup> Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. (She was 12 years old.) At this they were utterly

astounded. <sup>43</sup> Then He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this and said that she should be given something to eat.

Jesus walks over to the little girl's dead body and does the unthinkable—He touches her.

- Again, from a Jewish perspective touching a dead body was to make a person religiously unclean.
  - A Jew that had touched a dead body was not permitted to participate in religious ceremonies until a ritual of purification had been performed. J
    - Jesus walks over to the little girl and takes her by the hand because her parents believe that He can raise her from the dead.

Jesus, however, takes the little girl's lifeless hand in His. He then speaks to her in Aramaic.

- He doesn't speak a magical formula,
- He doesn't do a dance,
- He speaks to her and says with authority "I say to you, arise."

Jesus' raising the little girl from the dead was due to his authority as the Son of God!

**Mark 5:42** Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. (She was 12 years old.)

- Literally, the original language reads that the parent's response was such that they were "out of their minds with great amazement."
  - In other words, what they felt was beyond description and understanding. Wouldn't you feel the same way if Jesus raised a loved one of yours from the dead?

Jesus responds to belief.

- Jesus responded to the belief of the woman with the issue of blood by healing her.
- Jesus responded to the belief of Jarius by healing his daughter.

We must be willing to believe that God is capable of doing the impossible. In both cases Jesus did the impossible.

- In the first case, Jesus healed a woman who could not be healed by any human doctor.
- In the second case, Jesus raised a young girl from the dead.

**WE**

Jesus question to the crowd was: “Why make a commotion and weep?”

- Jesus’ point is that we must keep believing despite the bleakness of our situations.
- Jesus’ point is that we cannot allow our fear to overrule our faith!

### **PQ: Are you allowing Fear to overrule your Faith?**

**If so why are you no longer believing?**

- Is it your circumstances?
  - Do they seem overwhelming to you?
    - Change your perspective!!
- Is it because you just can’t see God being able to take care of the situation?
  - Let go of those subconscious limitations you have set-up concerning God’s power.
- Is it because you think that God doesn’t understand your problem?
  - Let go of those subconscious barriers you have set-up concerning God’s knowledge.
- Is it because God hasn’t responded according to your timetable?
  - Stop worrying about your timetable and trust God to take care of the situation in His time!

Jesus is calling you to let go of the excuses and simply believe. Jesus question to you this morning is **Are you allowing Fear to overrule your Faith?**