THE MIGHTY MASTER

PART 4 – OVER THE HOPELESS SITUATION

 **DATE: 12/24; 12/31/17 SS**

**TEXT: Mark 5:21-43**

**INTRODUCTION**

We have been following Jesus from one hopeless situation to another

We have witnessed the Lord Jesus demonstrate His power over a stormy sea; a demon-possessed man and a very sick woman

Jesus has proven that He is more than adequate for any situation He faced

Jesus spoke and, when He did, a raging storm ceased

At His command a man held captive by the devil was set free

His power instantly healed a woman caught in the grip of terminal illness

These three episodes prove that Jesus is the Master of the hopeless situation!

Thank God, we serve a Lord Who possesses all power

**Matthew 28:18 *– “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth”***

**Ephesians 3:20 *– “Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the (His) power that worketh in us,”***

We serve a Lord with Whom nothing is impossible

**Luke 1:37 *– “For with God nothing shall be impossible”***

Today, our text takes us into another hopeless situation

This time Jesus faces the greatest enemy known to man

Jesus faces death and He again walks away the Victor!

As we watch our Lord conquer one hopeless situation after another,

It should give us hope when our own desperate times come

I want to take the Lord's words in **v. 36** as my title today

I want to preach on the thought …

***“Be Not Afraid, Only Believe”***

As I do, I would like for us to see a father's faith in action

We will see how his faith is matured by the struggle he endured

What we learn here can help us to overcome our fears with faith during the hard times of life

**~~~Prayer~~~**

Notice the *phases* this father's faith passes through as this story develops

First, let’s look at …

**I. THE “CONCEPTION” OF HIS FAITH – vs. 21-24**

Jesus has just returned from a night on the sea

He and His disciples went to the other side of the lake

While He was there, Jesus delivered a poor man from the grip of Satan, by casting out the demons that possessed him

Now, Jesus has returned to Capernaum and is immediately met by a crowd of people

Many have gathered to hear Him speak

One came in the hopes of experiencing a miracle

All are there to see Jesus

A man named Jairus rushes into the crowd surrounding Jesus

It is his story that serves as the focus of these verses

Here we will see the Conception of a man’s Faith

**Conceive** – is transitive verb and means to produce something from the mind such as an emotion

He is a man whose little faith is about to grow very large

First, let’s look at …

**A. The ‘Direction’ of His Faith – vs. 22, 23a**

**1.** We are told that he is **“*a ruler of the synagogue*”**

This means that he was one of the officials who oversaw the business of the synagogue

He was not a rabbi, but he would have had a part in the services of the synagogue

He was responsible for making sure that everything was in order and ready at the synagogue

He would have been an important man in his community

Jairus possessed power, privilege, prestige, position, and prominence

He would have been a wealthy man, with a fine home and servants

He was a religious man, who faithfully practiced the Jewish faith

**2.** But at this point in his life all that doesn’t seem so important

Sickness and Death has visited the home of Jairus

His power, his money, his position, even his religion, were all powerless in the face these two enemies

His **“*little daughter*”** was dying and he needed help!

Jairus needed help that none of his resources could provide!

**3.** This broken hearted father knows he needs help!

Until someone realizes only God can help, nothing will change in a person’s life

He has heard about Jesus and he runs and humbles himself at Jesus feet

This must have been hard for Jairus!

After all, he’s a ruler of the synagogue

All of his colleagues in the ministry disapprove of Jesus and of His methods

Most of the synagogues had been closed to Jesus and His ministry

Yet, this father is desperate and he turns to the man named Jesus for the help he needs

Fear of death; love for his daughter; and a sense of utter helplessness drove this man to Jesus!

**4.** Jairus doesn't understand everything there is to know about Jesus

But, he has come to believe that this man can heal

Jairus faith was Conceived at some point here

Let me just remind you that tragedy doesn't care who you are!

The trials of life are not going to pass you by

**Job 14:1 –** ***“Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble”***

Our life is short and our troubles are long

**John 16:33 – *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world”***

Tragedy doesn't care that you go to church and pay your tithes

Sickness and death could care less about your achievements and assets

**5.** When the trials of life come, you need a resource outside of yourself

When death, sickness, sorrow, marital trouble, financial trouble, etc, comes,

We need more than some religion or the stuff of this world!

We need a faith that rests in Jesus and in His power

What are you really trusting in today?

**The ‘Direction’ of His Faith**

**B. The ‘Depth’ of His Faith – vs. 23b, 24**

**1.** Perhaps Jairus has heard what Jesus could do just by touching someone who is diseased

Surely he has already heard the stories about the amazing power of the Lord's touch

He might have even been in the synagogue, or by the seashore, when Jesus reached out, touched some pitiful creature and healed them of their disease

Regardless of whether he heard about or saw it with his own eyes …

Jairus believes that Jesus could do this for his own daughter

He believes the Lord's touch will bring healing to his child

Thus, this powerful man humbles himself at the feet of Jesus and cries out for the help he needs

**2.** This is the kind of faith the Lord is looking for in our life

He wants us to come to the end of our own abilities

He wants us to come to the place where we know that we can't, but where we believe that He can!

Like Jairus, there will be many times when our faith is small and weak

But it only takes the faith of a Mustard Seed

**Luke 13:19 –** ***“It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; …”***

But, like Jairus, our faith must be in the Lord and in His ability

Faith in Jesus is faith that will always be honored by God

**Mark 9:23 - “…*If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth*”**

**John 14:13, 14 - “*And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son” “If ye shall ask any thing in My Name, I will do it*”**

Faith in Jesus may start out very small, but it will not stay that way for long

God has a way of growing our faith as we walk with Him through the days of our lives

We are to live from Faith to Faith

**Romans 1:17 –** ***“For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith”***

**THE “CONCEPTION” OF HIS FAITH**

**II. THE “CONFUSION” OF HIS FAITH – vs. 24-35**

Someone has said - “*A faith that can't be tested is a faith that can't be trusted*”

Here, we see the fledgling faith of Jairus put to the test

His hopeless situation grew worse with each passing moment and a faith that was weak was brought to the breaking point

**A. Confused by the ‘Delay’**

Jesus leaves to go with Jairus to heal his daughter

As He goes, He is thronged by the crowd and a very sick woman touches His garments and is healed

Jesus stops to confront and comfort this woman, and as He does, precious minutes pass by

**vs. 24-27 …**

**1.** I would imagine that Jairus is confused and upset by this delay

After all, his daughter is in the dying process!

She doesn't have much time and Jesus is wasting His time on this woman

Is it possible that Jairus knew this woman and her condition?

If so, he knows that she had been sick for 12 yrs.

He may be thinking that waiting another hour for her healing wouldn't have killed her

He may be thinking that this interruption will kill his daughter

We don't know what was going on the mind of Jairus during this interruption

He was probably waiting impatiently, his stomach in knots

If you have ever had a very sick child, then you know the anxiety that must have gripped his heart

On the surface, the Lord's delay seems a little insensitive

He knows the seriousness of the situation

He knows the broken heart of this father

He knows the urgency of the need

But, Jesus pauses to take care of the need at hand

What in the world is the Lord thinking? Thinks Jairus

**2.** What seems to be hard and harsh on the surface has some important lessons to teach us

-- God doesn't run on our schedule

God is not bound by the constraints of time and space

It may surprise you, but God does not possess a clock or a calendar!

-- The delays of life are designed to increase our faith

You take a Joseph and throw him in a pit, then into slavery, then in to prison; and out of that delay God will give you the Prime Minister of Egypt and a man of God!

-- When God doesn't move as quickly as you might like, trust Him anyway

**Confused by the ‘Delay’**

**B. Confused by the ‘Dreaded News’ – v. 36**

As Jesus is finally finishing up with this woman,

Some people come from Jairus’ Home with devastating news

His daughter is dead!

Notice the cold way in which they inform this poor father

There is no compassion, no comfort, and no sympathy; there is nothing but cold, hard fact

The news is blunt and final - **“*Thy daughter is dead: Why troublest thou the Master any further?*”**

They are saying, “*Don't bother Jesus! Even He can't fix this problem! …*

*…Your daughter is dead and that is just the way it is!*”

**1.** Surely this news jarred Jairus to his foundations!

Surely this news attacked his faith and brought Jairus to the very edge of despair!

Surely he must have thought about the delay

I wonder if he became a little bitter at the Lord

**2.** Have you ever been faced with a similar situation?

The facts stare you in the face and every one of them cries, “*No hope! No hope! No hope!*”

-- That must have been how Mary and Martha felt when Lazarus fell ill and they sent for Jesus to come heal him in **John 11**

When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed where He was for two more days – **v. 6**

By the time Jesus arrived, Lazarus had been dead four days!

They thought all hope was gone

What they did not know was that what seemed to be a delay was merely Jesus setting the stage for a greater miracle!

-- That may have been how the disciples felt out there on the sea in that storm

They thought there was no hope

They thought the Saviour was not moving fast enough

Again, what they saw as a delay was merely Jesus setting the stage for a greater miracle!

We can't see what God is doing behind the scenes!

Sometimes it appears that He is taking His time when we want Him to move swiftly

-- What would Job have thought if he could have seen behind the curtain of eternity?

Would it have made his experience any easier to bear?

It might have and it might not have,

But God has no need to explain Himself to us!

When God doesn't make sense, keep trusting Him

He is working in ways you can't see to accomplish what you can't imagine!

**3.** God has a Plan

We need to remember the truth that “*God is seldom early, but He is never late*”

God has a plan for your situation!

Even when you can't see what the Lord is doing,

Learn to trust Him anyway and your faith will sustain you!

Even when you can't see what He is doing,

God is working to accomplish His plan and purposes in your life and mine

**Job 23:10 –** ***“But God knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold”***

**Psalm 37:23 *– “The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and He delighteth in his way”***

**THE “CONCEPTION” OF HIS FAITH**

**THE “CONFUSION” OF HIS FAITH**

**III. THE “CONFIRMATION” OF HIS FAITH – vs. 36-43**

The faith of Jairus was Weak

The faith of Jairus Waivered

But, in the end, the faith of Jairus Won out

His faith triumphed because his faith was rooted in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Notice the Victory his faith won for him

First, we see that his Faith is …

**A. Confirmed by the Saviour’s ‘Words’ – vs. 36-39**

Jesus overhears the words from those who have brought the news of the girl's death

Jesus also knows the fear that rests within the heart of Jairus

Jesus says in **v. 36 - “*Be not afraid, only believe*”**

Jesus is telling Jairus –

-- *“Don't believe what you hear”* **– v. 35**

*-- “Don't believe what you know”* **– vs. 38, 39**

*-- “Don't believe what you see”* **- v. 40**

*-- “Most of all, don't believe what you think! Trust Me!*”

He is saying - “*Jairus, you believed Me when you came to Me a few moments ago; keep believing in Me now!*”

**1.** The Mourning

So Jesus and Jairus continued on to Jairus' house

When they arrived, they find that the mourners are already there **– v. 38**

The mourners were wailing and crying and sad tunes were being played on the flutes

Jewish law required that even the poorest of people have at least one mourner and two flute players

These mourners showed up as soon as there was a death

They began to wail, cry and scream, calling attention to the fact that death had invaded a home

They came quickly because the dead were buried before sundown

These same practices continue to this day in parts of the Middle East

Since Jairus was wealthy and well known, the number of hired mourners would have been more

Mark describes their noise as a **“*tumult*”**

This word describes a *clamorous uproar*

Jesus sees this mourning going on

The word **“*seeth*”** has the idea of *watching for a prolonged time*

Jesus is watching this show and He knows that there is no genuine grief involved

The mourners could have cared less about the pain of this family

The only people really hurting are Jairus and his wife

Jesus approaches this scene and makes a strange statement

He tells the mourners to stop their wailing because the little girl is not dead, but only sleeping

They laugh at Him, (**v. 40 a**) but there’s truth in His words

**2.** How People View Death

People look at Death in different ways

There is a lot who look at death as the end of all things

Other don’t even regard it, they act like it will never happen

They think that when they die they cease to exist

Some see it as a time of absolute hopelessness

Jesus seems to have a totally different opinion

He calls it **“*sleep*” – v. 39**

Now, don't misunderstand, He isn't talking about so-called “*soul sleep*”

Many teach that the soul and the body go together into the grave to await the resurrection

That’s not what the Bible says

**II Corinthians 5:8 –** ***“We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord”***

**I Thessalonians 4:13-18 …**

When Jesus says the girl is sleeping, He reveals a proper perspective of death

When death claims a believer, the body lies down in sleep,

But the soul flies away to be with the Lord

There is no real death for a child of God

**John 5:24 –** ***“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life”***

In the death of an unsaved person their soul is separated from God for all eternity

**Romans 6:23 *– “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”***

**II Thessalonians 1:8, 9 *– “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:” “Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power;”***

This event is called **“*the second death*”** in **Revelation 20:14**

The second death has no power over the child of God

When a believer dies, their body goes into the ground, but their soul lives on in the presence of the Lord

They are not dead, but like a sleeping person, their body is at rest, waiting for the day it will be raised and glorified and reunited with their Soul

Jesus is just letting Jairus and everyone there know that He is in control of this situation too

Why – He’s The Mighty Master

Healing the sick woman was no problem

Casting out a legion of demons was no problem

Calming a raging sea was no problem

Dealing with this situation will prove to be no problem as well

What a lesson for us!

There is not a situation we can think of that is beyond His ability!

When you are faced with a hopeless situation,

Remember the words of the Lord and let His words be all the support your faith needs!

**“*Be not afraid, only believe*”**

Let His words secure your faith

**Confirmed by the Saviour’s ‘Words’**

**B. Confirmed by the Saviour’s ‘Works’ – vs. 40-43**

Jesus sends the mourners and the spectators away

He takes Jairus, the girl's mother and Peter, James and John and enters the room where the girl's body lies

He took her by the hand and said **“*Talitha Cumi*”**

This phrase can literally be translated “*Arise little lamb*”

What a tender expression!

Jesus is moved with compassion by the grief in this home and He calls the little girl's spirit back into her body

She obeys His command and instantly receives life

She gets up and everyone is amazed

It amazes me when I read about Jesus walking on water, feeding a multitude with a small amount of food, calming a storm, healing a sickness, etc.

But, nothing showcases His divine power like Him raising someone from the dead!

If Jesus can do this, there is nothing impossible with Him!

That lost spouse or family member can be saved!

That impossible situation in your life can be handled!

That incredible need that you think is so great, it can be met!

Here are two thoughts that I want you to take home with you today

-- Jesus cares about your situation

**Hebrews 4:15, 16 *– “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need”***

**I Peter 5:7 *– “Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you”***

-- Jesus is able to handle your situation, no matter what it is

**Luke 1:37 *– “For with God nothing shall be impossible”***

**Ephesians 3:20 *– “Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,”***

**CONCLUSION**

Jesus wanted to keep this matter quiet

There are Several Reason why

A couple of those reasons need to be repeated today

**1.** First, it wasn't time for Jesus to make a full revelation of Himself to the Jewish people

Here is the principle: God always does things at the right time

Even in your life and mine

He does what He does right on time every time

**2.** Second, Jesus did not want everyone to think that they would always receive healing when they were sick, or a resurrection if they died

Here is the principle: God has a specific plan for your life

He will always keep His promises, but He may not fulfill them in the ways you expect Him to!

Jairus had his faith enlarged by this encounter with Jesus

He discovered the power of God and his life would never be the same

**“BE NOT AFRAID ONLY BELIEVE”**