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BIBLE STUDY

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**“THE POWER OF THE TOUCH”**

**Mark 5:21-43**

***Mark 5:21 "And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea."***

We assume that this was Capernaum, because it was across the sea. This is on the edge of the Sea of Galilee. The people were aware that Jesus would return here and were awaiting Him. In the Capernaum area, Jesus felt the need to maintain a lower profile. Previously, He asked those who were touched by Him not to tell anyone. Possibly, it was because he wanted more time to train and empower His disciples to continue His earthly ministry. However, they ignored His request and it didn't take long for a crowd to gather.

***Mark 1:34***

***34And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.***

***Mark 1:44***

***44And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.***

***Mark 3:10-15***

***10For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.***

***11And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.***

***12And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known.***

***13And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him.***

***14And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,***

***15And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:***

***John 14:12***

***12Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.***

***Mark 5:22 "And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet,"***

***Mark 5:23 "And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: [I pray thee], come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live."***

A Synagogue ruler is a layman who oversaw community services. Whenever five Jewish families resided in a city a Synagogue was established. We see, here, one of the rulers of the synagogue came to Jesus. "Jairus" means "he will illuminate". This was a very difficult thing for someone from the Jewish synagogue to do. He humbled himself to Jesus to save his daughter's life. The same account in Matthew says she was even now dead. The account in Luke said she lay a dying. At any rate, her condition was hopeless unless Jesus intervened. The love of this parent overcame all the fear of his friends' laughter. Jairus had seen the miracles in the synagogue, and he knew that just one touch from the hand of Jesus did miracles. He wanted his daughter to live, and he had come to Jesus as a last resort.

***Mark 5:24 "And [Jesus] went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him."***

***Mark 5:25 "And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,"***

***Mark 5:26 "And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,"***

***Mark 5:27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.***

***Mark 5:28 "For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole."***

The instant Jesus stepped out into the street the people surrounded Him. The word had traveled far and wide that Jesus was healing and doing all of these miracles. This same account of this woman's illness in Luke said that she had spent all of her money trying to find a cure for this hemorrhaging. This had been going on twelve years, and she had given up on help from the physicians. Her only hope was Jesus. She felt unworthy for Him to touch her since she was a Gentile woman; but she felt if she might just touch His garment, she would be healed. Her faith was great. Her faith had brought her, in her weakened condition, to be in this crowd that she might touch His garment. Perhaps, the delay was so Jairus' daughter would be dead, and Jesus would show His power to resurrect the dead.

***Mark 5:29 "And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in [her] body that she was healed of that plague."***

***Mark 5:30 "And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?"***

The moment she touched Him she was healed. She was expecting healing, and she received it when it came. Jesus knew that healing virtue had gone out of Him. He asked who had received healing. You know there were masses around Him who wanted to be healed. We might ask ourselves why God chose her to heal. It was because of her great faith. Faith pleases God. Jesus felt the healing power of God surge out of Him.

***Mark 5:31 "And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?"***

***Mark 5:32 "And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing."***

This is so interesting, because so many touched Jesus physically; they were pressed all around Him. Only one touched into His healing power. Her touch was a touch of faith, knowing within herself that one touch would make her whole. Healing is a spiritual gift, but many times it comes with a physical touch of the hand. This touch was the act of faith that it took to activate the miracle.

***Mark 5:33 "But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth."***

We see, here, that Jesus wanted her to publicly proclaim this miracle. She felt as if maybe Jesus would not have bothered with her if she had asked, and she had received this blessing kind of without permission. She was not aware that Jesus would heal or save whosoever will. We not only must receive Jesus in our hearts, but confession with the mouth is made unto salvation. She must proclaim this miracle to keep it. Confession is good for the soul, and she had done just that here.

***Mark 5:34 "And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."***

We see here, again, that the woman's great faith was what attained her healing for her. The King of Peace spoke peace to her. It appears that this sickness she had, had been a judgement from God {plague}. At any rate, she was forgiven and freed from the plague.

***Mark 5:35 "While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's [house certain] which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further?"***

In the midst of Jesus' ministering to the woman with the issue of blood, we see the men come to tell Jesus that Jarius' daughter was dead. There must be an impossibility before there can be a miracle. Here they tell Jarius, don't bother Jesus any further, your daughter is dead.

***Mark 5:36 "As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe."***

We see, here, again, that Jairus was a high official in the synagogue. Jesus reminded him not to doubt but believe. This was asking a very difficult thing in the sense that in the flesh she was dead. The Spirit can quicken the dead, however.

***Mark 5:37 "And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James."***

Here, again, we see these three chosen out for special things. If Jesus had favorites, these three were them. These three were about to see in action that Jesus had power over death.

***Mark 5:38 "And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly."***

The mourning had already begun. Jesus saw all of this crying and commotion in the house.

***Mark 5:39 "And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth."***

We learned, in another account, that this girl was about 12 years old. Jesus was actually telling these people that breathing life into this child again was nothing for Him. He is life.

***Mark 5:40 "And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying."***

Jesus immediately removed these unbelievers from the house. Then He took Peter, James, John, and the parents to the bed where the young girl was lying.

***Mark 5:41 "And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise."***

We see, here, the power of life flowing through Jesus' hand to this child. Jesus' literal words were repeated here, "Talitha cumi"; which means little maid arise. The power of life and death is in Jesus' hands. Eternal life and death is in His hands, as well.

***Mark 5:42 "And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was [of the age] of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment."***

Telling her age, here, just tells us that this girl was not a baby, but fully old enough to walk. You can imagine how surprised they were when this supposedly dead girl arose and walked.

***Mark 5:43 "And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat."***

In another gospel, they were instructed to give her meat. They were not to spread the word. It, however, would be hard to conceal since so many were there mourning her death, and now she was alive. Just as on resurrection day when all who are in their graves shall hear His voice and come forth, these rejoicing parents had seen their daughter hear His voice and come forth. It will be next to impossible not to tell this wonderful story.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Where did Jesus go when He left the demoniac man?
2. Who was the ruler of the synagogue who came to Jesus?
3. What show of emotion did he show to Jesus?
4. What was his need?
5. What does Jairus mean?
6. How bad was the little girl?
7. Why did he come to Jesus for help?
8. What happened when Jesus entered the street to go to Jairus' house?
9. How long had the woman had the issue of blood?
10. What had she previously done to get help?
11. What had she said within herself would heal her?
12. When she touched Him, what did Jesus feel?
13. What happened to the woman?
14. What question did Jesus ask that the disciples thought was strange?
15. When was she healed?
16. The woman, fearing and trembling, did what?
17. What made the woman whole?
18. What is a plague?
19. Why did they tell Jairus not to trouble the Master?
20. What two things did Jesus tell Jairus to do?
21. Which three disciples did Jesus allow to go with Him to Jairus' house?
22. What did Jesus do with the onlookers, besides the three disciples and the parents?
23. What did Jesus tell them about the damsel?
24. What did Jesus do to the damsel to revive her?
25. What specific words did He say?
26. What happened?
27. How old was the little girl?
28. The power of life and death is in whose hands?