

Battling Despair

Mark 5:21-43

1. Hope Only Found in Jesus vs. 21-29

Both Jairus and the woman were experiencing despair that the resources in this world could not transform into hope. Although, they both interrupted Jesus in what he was doing, Jesus welcomed and accepted them for they truly saw Jesus, and responded in faith; believing Jesus to be their Saviour.

Nothing compares to the hope that we can find in Jesus. Jesus is always available to us as we respond in faith; Jesus being our Saviour.

2. Hope Strengthened in Life with Jesus vs. 30-34

Jesus desires more than providing miracles, as He desires having a personal encounter with this woman. Discipleship is not simply getting our needs met, but more importantly, having a relationship with Jesus Christ, and following Him.

Our Hope is strengthened when our focus is on our relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus came on this earth to be our Saviour so that we can be restored and begin living life with Him.

Questions:

- How has God shown Himself to be faithful when you face difficult times?
- In what situation in your life do you need to heed Jesus' words, "Don't be afraid, just believe"(vs. 36); keep trusting in who God is, His plans and the promises He has given us?

3. Hope That Overcomes Loss Vs. 35-43

Although the woman's experience with Jesus was so profitable, this interruption brought Jairus much loss, as his daughter passed away. However, with Jesus being Jairus' Saviour, Jairus learned that he can still have hope, as nothing will hinder God's plan for his daughter. What seemed like a costly delay became an opportunity for Jesus to triumph over the grave.

In this world we will experience loss, but Jesus is our reigning king. Nothing can hinder our relationship with Him or the plans He has for us.

Questions:

- Reflect on a time when you became desperate for Jesus, as you were overwhelmed by your circumstance. How did God shape your faith through those times?
- Where might unbelief and relying on myself/my own understanding threaten my opportunity to experience the peace and hope only Jesus can give?