

Jairus

“Young Lions”



“Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet and implored him earnestly, saying, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live.”

Mark 5:22-23

We don't often hear about Jairus, but he was a brave young father who took a step of faith among many people who opposed him and others who were amazed by him.

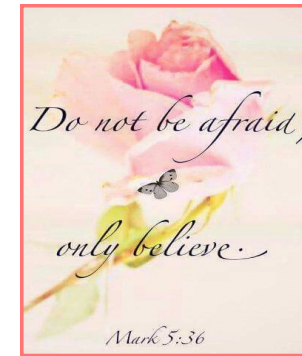
Jairus was very important in the synagogue of Capernaum and a well known religious leader. That does not mean that he was a follower of Christ. He was part of the “religious” leaders who were opposed to this young man who was talking with people about a very personal God and doing miracles.

The “religious” leaders were afraid of this man called Jesus. They had people under their control and Jesus was talking about God's free love to all who believed.

Jairus was also a father of an only child who was dying at age twelve. He knew of the miracles Christ was doing, but was he strong enough to go against the authorities and reach out to Jesus to ask for healing for his daughter? One day in faith he was strong enough and he asked Christ to pray for his daughter and go to his home and lay hands on her. Sometimes we have to really be desperate and then we turn to God. Jairus wasn't alone in this situation. We often try to do something on our own and then realize we really need to go to God for help.

Jesus said he would and started following him home. A crowd of people had assembled and started following Jesus as he went to the home of Jairus.

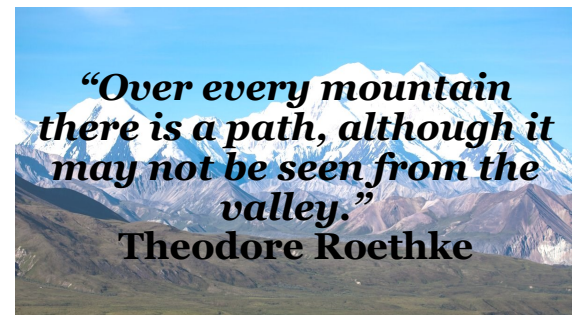
As they were going along a young woman who had also come to believe was in the crowd. According to what we are told she had a discharge for twelve years and the indication is given that she was not a very nice woman and so she didn't want to be known but she believed that if she could just touch the robe of Christ she could be healed. When she touched his robe Christ stopped in his tracks and asked who had touched him. The disciples with him said they couldn't tell because there were so many people in the crowd, but Christ knew and wanted to



acknowledge her. In fear she admitted she had been the one. Christ did not scold her. Instead he said to her “*Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.*” Mark 5:3

Jairus might have been wondering why Jesus was stopping to heal this woman, but we don't hear any negative words from him. He had faith that his daughter was going to be healed. While the healing of this woman was taking place, some people who had been at the home of Jairus came and told him that his daughter had died. There was no need for them to go any further.

Jesus heard them talking to Jairus and said to him “*Do not fear, only believe.*” Mark 5:36 Jesus allowed only three of his disciples to go with him at that point. He went into the room with the young girl and her father and mother. Many people were weeping

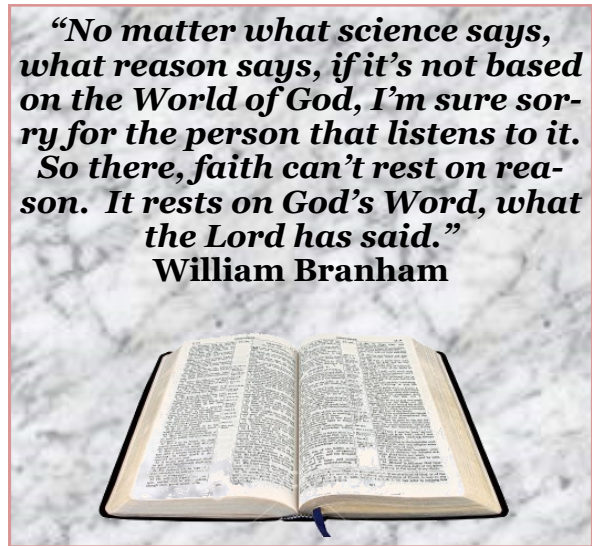


If we could put ourselves in the situation that Jairus was in, what would we believe. The crowds thought the daughter was dead, and Christ said she was just sleeping.

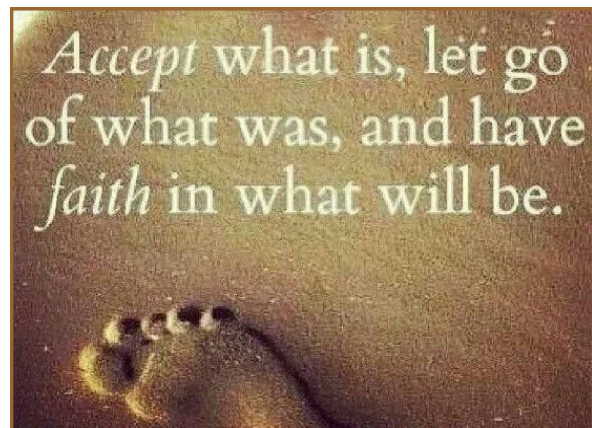
Many people were waiting outside When Jesus arrived. Jesus said to them *“Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.”* Mark 5:39 Jairus had taken the huge step of putting his faith into the hands of Jesus. That choice is given to each of us. Jesus is there for us just as he was for Jairus and the same healing is there that was given to his daughter. Jairus had gone against the authorities, but he had taken the step of faith and then Christ told them not to tell anyone. We don't know for sure why Jesus told them not to tell anyone. It may have something to do with the fact that each of us has to accept Christ as an individual.

We can't buy salvation; we can't earn it. We only have to take that wonderful step and believe. Each of us has to make that decision. The next Sabbath Jesus was preaching in the synagogue and many who heard him were astonished and came to realize that the carpenter, the son of Mary and Joseph, was really the Messiah they had been seeking for years. In one short story we

“If there are a thousand steps between us and God, He will take all but one. He will leave the final one for us. The choice is ours.”
Mark Lucado



have Christ healing the daughter of a very important religious leader and a young woman who was an outcast of society. He does not favor the poor over the rich or the powerful over the servant. We are all equal in His eyes. We are given a wonderful promise in Joshua 1:9 *“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you may go.”*



Prayer: God, You are so magnificent and yet we sometimes feel we can do things on our own until we have reality set in and remind us that You are in charge. We have good times and bad times, but in Your hands, we are always safe. Help us to realize the faith of a child and the wonderful gifts You give each of us every day. Help us to obey Your commandment to be strong and to not get discouraged, but to know You are always in control. Amen

1. How strong was the faith of Jairus, a young father?
2. Would you have had faith in some young man on the street who seemed to be doing miracles knowing that you might be chastised by the authorities?
3. What is the significance of the young woman with the blood disorder in the middle of the story about the young girl who was dying?
4. What does it take to make us turn to God in prayer?

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