

POWER OF HEALING

CORE PASSAGE: LUKE 8:41-56

CONTEXT

Jesus and His disciples sailed across the Sea of Galilee to the predominantly Gentile region of the Gerasenes. After Jesus cast demons from a man into a herd of pigs, the people there asked Him to leave. Jesus and the disciples then returned to the Galilean side of the lake, where a crowd awaited His return. The crushing crowd's needs and expectations heightened the urgency of the moment as two people captured Jesus's attention. One was a respected leader of the local synagogue and the other was a woman who was ceremonially unclean—yet their stories intersected when they met Jesus.

KEY CONCEPT

Faith assures us that Jesus, as God, has the power to heal and resurrect.

As you examine Luke 8:41-56:

- Notice that the woman had faith that she would be healed just by touching Jesus's clothes.
- Contemplate that even in times of hopelessness, hope prevails through Christ.



TIMELINE

Jesus Teaches and Explains the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:4-15)

SESSION STUDY: Jesus Heals Two Daughters (Luke 8:40-56)

Jesus Walks on Water (Mark 6:45-52)

Jesus Calms a Storm (Luke 8:22-25)

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (Luke 9:10-17)

Daily Readings

☐ **Day 1:** Luke 8:40-48

☐ **Day 4:** Mark 5:35-43

☐ **Day 2:** Luke 8:49-56

☐ **Day 5:** Mark 6:1-13

☐ **Day 3:** Mark 5:21-34

☐ **Day 6:** Psalm 4



Scan this QR code to access this session's Scripture passages.

PERSONAL PREPARATION

LUKE 8:41-48

FAITH ASSURES US THAT JESUS CAN HEAL.

Underline words or phrases that highlight the desperation of both Jairus and the woman.

41 Just then, a man named Jairus came. He was a leader of the synagogue. He fell down at Jesus's feet and pleaded with him to come to his house, **42** because he had an only daughter about twelve years old, and she was dying. While he was going, the crowds were nearly crushing him. **43** A woman suffering from bleeding for twelve years, who had spent all she had on doctors and yet could not be healed by any, **44** approached from behind and touched the end of his robe. Instantly her bleeding stopped. **45** "Who touched me?" Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds are hemming you in and pressing against you." **46** "Someone did touch me," said Jesus. "I know that power has gone out from me." **47** When the woman saw that she was discovered, she came trembling and fell down before him. In the presence of all the people, she declared the reason she had touched him and how she was instantly healed. **48** "Daughter," he said to her, "your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

THEOLOGY CONNECTION

FAITH: Biblical faith is the resting, or trusting, in Christ alone for salvation (John 3:16-21). More than being simply a mental agreement of historical facts, genuine faith begins with a recognition and confession of the truth of the gospel (1 John 4:13-16), followed by a receiving of Christ as Lord and Savior of one's life (John 1:10-13). Biblical faith is not blind faith, for it rests on the historical life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Key Concept: Faith assures us that Jesus, as God, has the power to heal and resurrect.



The news of Jesus's power to heal and teach had spread throughout the region. Imagine the constant demands placed on Jesus, who could heal people with a touch or a word. For example, a leader of the nearby synagogue came and fell at Jesus's feet, pleading for Jesus to go with him and save his dying daughter. Could anything be more urgent?

Yet as Jesus was on the way to his house, another desperate soul availed herself of the crowd pressing against Jesus to sneak in and touch the edge of His robe. This woman's chronic medical condition undoubtedly had left her weak, hopeless, ceremonially unclean, and unable to worship at the temple (Leviticus 15:25-31). Her hope reawakened, however, when Jesus passed by, so she reached out in faith that just one touch would heal her.

How have you experienced hope in Christ in the midst of a hopeless situation?

The woman's faith was immediately rewarded with complete healing. The flow of Jesus's divine power stemmed the flow of blood in her body. Despite the urgency of other needs, Jesus was not content to let this faith encounter end there. So, He asked, "Who touched me?" and waited for a response (Luke 8:45-46).

Trembling, the woman approached Jesus, in awe of His power and fearful of being exposed. Would the good Teacher be angry that an unclean woman had touched Him? Jesus did not wish to reproach her, though, but to reward her faith with the gift of personal relationship. The brief conversation that followed revealed to her that Jesus was more than her Healer—He was her Savior. It also made public both her confession of faith (Romans 10:9-10) and Jesus's inclusion of this once-outcast woman as a daughter of the kingdom.

What things keep you from confessing publicly what Christ has done for you?



FAITH ASSURES US THAT JESUS CAN RESURRECT.

Underline the words and actions of the mourners, and circle Jesus's words and actions in comparison.

49 While he was still speaking, someone came from the synagogue leader's house and said, "Your daughter is dead. Don't bother the teacher anymore." **50** When Jesus heard it, he answered him, "Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be saved." **51** After he came to the house, he let no one enter with him except Peter, John, James, and the child's father and mother. **52** Everyone was crying and mourning for her. But he said, "Stop crying, because she is not dead but asleep." **53** They laughed at him, because they knew she was dead. **54** So he took her by the hand and called out, "Child, get up!" **55** Her spirit returned, and she got up at once. Then he gave orders that she be given something to eat. **56** Her parents were astounded, but he instructed them to tell no one what had happened.



Key Concept: Faith assures us that Jesus, as God, has the power to heal and resurrect.

A woman suffering from a disease for twelve years received new life at the same time we hear that a girl, only twelve years old, died of a disease. At first, it seems that Jesus's conversation with the woman, rewarding her faith, delayed Him from reaching the girl in time. News of this tragedy threatened to overshadow the joy of the woman's recent healing and Jairus's own faith.

Jairus's servant who brought the devastating news suggested, "Don't bother the teacher anymore" (v. 49). What could Jesus possibly do now? But Jesus encouraged Jairus to choose faith over fear. Jesus's divine power can reverse sin's curse on all aspects of our broken world—death included. Just as He had saved one "daughter" from disease (v. 48), so Jesus promised to save another daughter from death.

How should we re-evaluate our understanding of urgency and interruptions in light of these two accounts?

By the time Jesus and Jairus arrived at the house, mourners had begun their weeping in earnest. Shockingly, Jesus told the crowd there was no need to mourn, but being very familiar with the reality of death, they mocked Him. By contrast,

when Jesus told the dead girl to get up, she immediately heeded His words and got up! The mourners correctly perceived that the girl had died, but they were wrong to laugh at the One who redefined death as sleep, something that could be temporary rather than final.

Since the time when humanity first sinned in the garden of Eden, death has reigned on earth. Jesus came to reverse that curse, as the resurrection of Jairus's daughter showed. Ultimately, Jesus accomplished this victory by defeating death Himself and becoming the "firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Those who belong to Christ by faith also will rise at His return, never to die again (vv. 23-26).

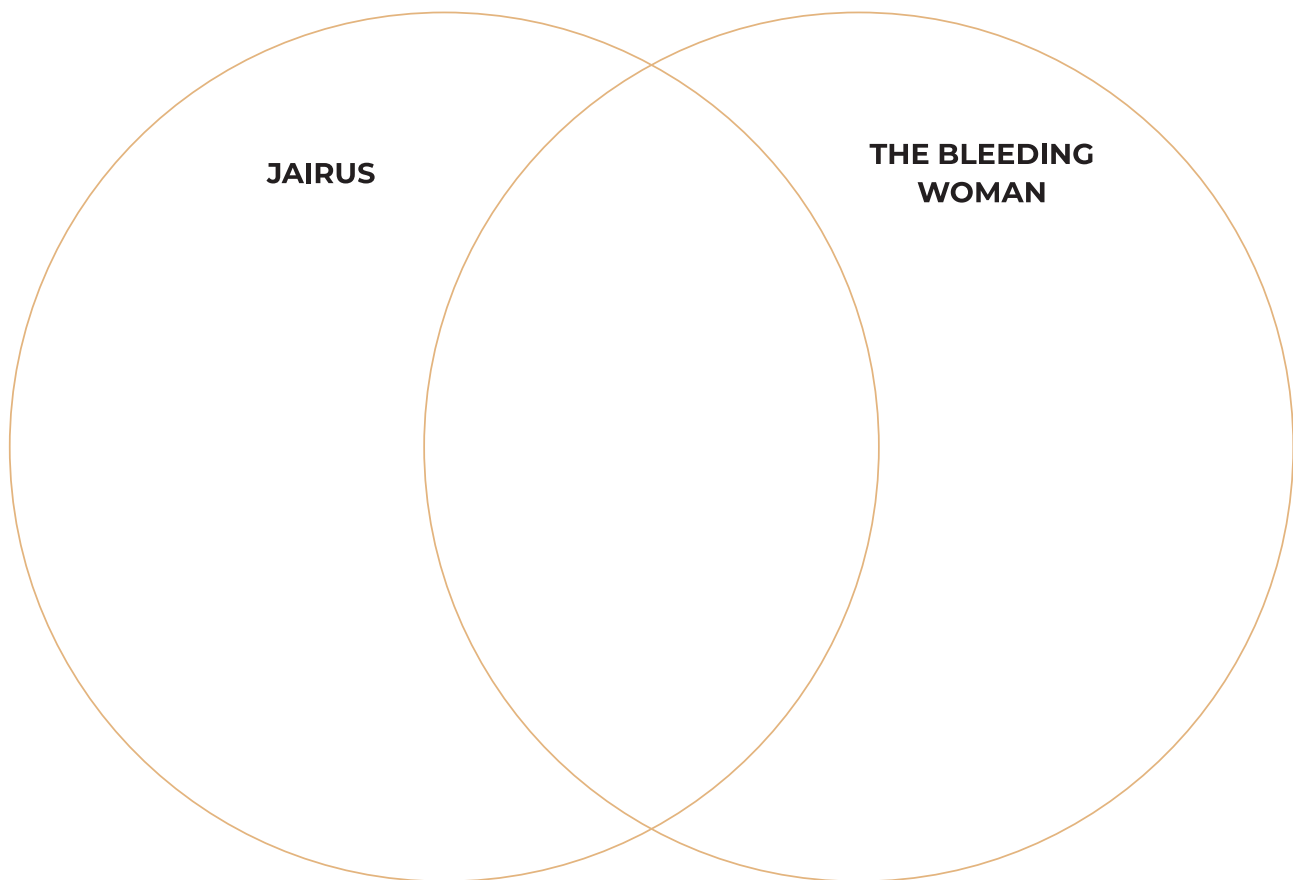
Why is "sleep" a true and comforting metaphor for the death of a believer in Christ?

CHRIST CONNECTION

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Jesus demonstrated His divine power by healing and resurrecting others. His power to physically heal and resurrect points to His power to spiritually heal and resurrect souls.

TWO NEEDS FOR HEALING

Read Luke 8:41-56. Use the diagram below to compare and contrast the situations of Jairus and the bleeding woman.



What should we make of Jesus's commendation of the woman's faith and His encouragement to Jairus to believe?

Key Concept: Faith assures us that Jesus, as God, has the power to heal and resurrect.



HEAD

What influences in your life lead you toward doubt? What influences lead you toward faith?

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

As you read Psalm 4, pray that God would help you truly trust Him and not let other people's doubts and disbelief sway you from steadfast faith in Christ. Thank Him for being your joy and peace.

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISES



HEART

How do fear and faith influence your approach to Jesus for the things you need and the relationship you desire with Him?



HANDS

Whom will you tell this week about what God has done for you through faith in Him?

