

# MARK 5:21-43

## OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE SAY?

1. What two events are described in this section? Where do these events take place?
2. Who are the characters involved? What do they want from Jesus? How do they approach Jesus?
3. Why are the disciples surprised at Jesus' question in verse 30? What are the feelings of the woman who touched Jesus? How long had the woman dealt with her illness?
4. What happens to Jairus' daughter while Jesus is dealing with the woman? How does Jesus respond?
5. Who does Jesus allow to go with him to Jairus' home? What do they find there? How does Jesus respond to them and how do they respond in return?
6. What does Jesus do to the child? How does she respond and what is the response of the people?
7. How old is the girl?
8. What are the instructions given in verse 43?

## INTERPRETATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. What position did Jairus hold? Do you think it was easy for him to approach Jesus and ask him to his home? What factors would have made it difficult for Jairus to approach Jesus? Why does he overcome those factors to approach Jesus?
2. Who is the woman who touches Jesus? Why does she sneak up to Jesus instead of asking him to heal her? Why is she afraid upon being discovered?
3. Is the length of the woman's affliction (12 years) and the age of the girl (12 years old) a coincidence? If it is not, what is the significance?
4. What are the similarities/differences between the woman and Jairus? Their requests and their approach to Jesus? The results?
5. Do both the woman and Jairus express faith? Whose faith is stronger?

## APPLICATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN TO ME/US?

1. In that area of your life in which you need the most help, would you prefer to take it straight to Jesus, or would you like to go up to him unnoticed and just touch him to get rid of it?
2. The people in verse 35 tell Jairus to not bother Jesus anymore, are there areas of your life, circumstances in your life that you have placed in the category of beyond help? In light of this passage, how should you view that issue?
3. If Jesus were to visit you today, what would your response to him be: curiosity (v.14); anticipation (v. 18); pleading and requesting (vs 22-23); hanging around unnoticed (vs 25ff.); afraid (vs 33, 36); doubting (v.40); Astonishment (vs 20, 42)? Why?

## ACTION PLAN

Spend time personally and with others in coming up with an action plan inspired by your study. What in this passage compels you to desire a change, to move to action, to become more like Jesus? It could be a change in thinking, behavior, character. It could be internal or external. It could be personal or relational. Just don't leave studying the Bible as simply an intellectual exercise.