

## Gospel of Mark Chapter 5B

Jake's last potty break before bed, He returned to the house filthy! The odor was pungent, enough to make me gag. The Bible speaks of being "unclean" Jake was!

- There is no way that he could enter our house in that condition.
- Our house is clean, BUT the dogs don't seem to share our hygienic priorities.
- Thinking about Jake's defiled condition and his inability to enter the sacred confines of our home I thought about my own uncleanness and my inability to enter the presence of God apart from the cleansing work of Christ.

Consider King David's words regarding our approach to God.

Psalm 24:3 **Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. 5 He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.**

- The law is established on the fact that God is holy and He is to be treated as holy - He is undefiled - the defiled cannot dwell within his presence.

Throughout the Law of Moses there is a clear delineation between that which is clean and that which is unclean.

- The Hebrew word translated "unclean" is used nearly 100 times in the book of Leviticus alone. Animals, objects, food, clothing and even people could be considered "unclean."
- Generally speaking the Law considered something as "unclean" if it was unfit to use or participate in the worship of God.
  - Certain animals were forbidden to be used in sacrifice because they were unclean. (Pigs, certain birds of prey )
  - There were people who were forbidden to participate in worship because they were considered unclean. If you touched a dead body you were unclean for 7 days. A woman was unclean for 7 - 14 days after giving birth.

Returning to the Gospel of Mark I would like to draw your attention to a common thread that unites all three of the main characters here in chapter 5.

- The Gadarene Demonic, Jairus' daughter and the hemorrhaging woman; all of these were considered unclean and all of them were cleansed by the Lord Jesus.

The Law was very clear on who was declared "unclean" BUT the Law had NO ability to cleanse them.

- ONLY Jesus can cleanse the unclean, only by the Blood of Jesus is the stain of sin washed away. It is the atoning work of Christ that provides sinners with **clean hands and a pure heart.**

OUTLINE:

- Hope's Desperate Plea
- Hope Deferred
- Hope Resurrected

Mark 5:21 And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. 22 Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet 23 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." 24 And he went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him.

In this paragraph we find ourselves back in Peter's home town of Capernaum.

- This is the place where Jesus healed Simon's mother in law.
- 1:34, he healed many who were sick with various diseases.
- 2:3 a Paralytic was dropped through the roof of Peter's house and was healed.
- 3:5 a Man with a withered hand was healed in the synagogue.
- 3:10 He healed many (AGAIN)
- All of this took place in Capernaum.

I think it is obvious that Jairus knew of these miracles and in his time of need He ran to the only one he believed could help.

- Mark described him as "*one of the rulers of the synagogue.*" He was not a worship leader or professionally trained scribe or Rabbi.
- But he is a very influential man entrusted with the general oversight and administration of the synagogue and services. (ANDY GLICK )

Jairus' approach to the Lord Jesus is one of humility, brokenness and sincere faith.

- Jesus virtually banished sickness from Capernaum over the last 18 months BUT now Jairus' daughter was literally at death's door.
- He comes to the Lord desperate yet believing, distressed but hopeful.

Over the years, I have cried and prayed with desperate parents whose children were knocking on death's door. (Cancer, car accidents)

- Every medical option had been exhausted and only God could save their child.

It is comforting to me that the Lord Jesus stood by Jairus' side the whole time.

Mark 5:24 And he (Jesus) went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him.

- If it were me I would have wanted to hold Jesus hand and run through the streets pulling him, dragging him if necessary to the bedside of my precious daughter.
- BUT Mark tells us that there was a great crowd that thronged him. We have seen this before in the Gospel of Mark where the crowd seems to be a hindrance.
- Interference is frustrating in a time of emergency. Every minute seems like an hour every interruption like an unnecessary hurdle to jump over when all you want to do is sprint.

Hope Deferred:

Solomon tells us in the book of Proverbs:

Pr 13:12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

- When Jesus agreed to go with Jarius, I have to believe that he had a glimmer of hope. BUT On the way to Jairus' house Jesus was sidetracked.

- Think of this like a critically ill patient on their way to the hospital when the ambulance encounters a traffic jam that it simply cannot get around.
- Precious moments are slipping away and so is the life of this little girl.
- Who is responsible?

Mark 5: 25 **And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years,**  
 26 **and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse.**

- This woman was hemorrhaging for 12 years (her infirmity was the same age as Jairus' daughter)
- The poor woman had suffered much under many Physicians ( unproductive remedies)
- Talmud – carrying a kernel of corn that was pulled from a donkey's manure, Carrying the ashes of an ostrich egg in a linen bag
  - Like many of us, her health-care costs had taken all of her money.
  - BUT this woman's problem wasn't merely physical.

Leviticus 15:25 said that a woman who was subject to bleeding beyond her monthly period was considered unclean as long as she continued to bleed.

- Because of this bleeding, no one was permitted to touch her for 12 years and everything that she touched was considered unclean.
  - She was restricted from worshipping in the synagogue or the temple.
- FOR 12 YEARS this poor woman had a daily reminder of her continual uncleanness. Twelve years of crying out to God for help. Twelve years of isolation from the fellowship of Israel.
  - Surely there must be something wrong with me. What did I do to deserve this? Is God punishing me for something?
    - Self-evaluation followed by depression and self pity.

BUT TODAY: the great healer in town. He is not like the physicians who have taken all of her money. He works miracles and he takes no money.

Mark 5:27 **She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment.** 28 **For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well."**

- She heard, she believed and she acted.
- Romans 10:17 tells us that faith is a gift of God that the Holy Spirit provides through hearing God's Word.
- James 2:19-20 tells us that saving faith is evidenced by action.
- By grace through faith in the Lord Jesus, God provided this woman with healing and cleansing.

29 **And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease.** 30 **And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?"**

- Immediately, as soon as the woman touches Jesus' garment both He and she KNOW that healing has taken place.
  - She felt an immediate change within her body.

- He recognizes that a power has gone out from him. Immediately he turns and says, “Who touched my garments?”
- NOW remember, that by Levitical Law everything that this woman touched would become UNCLEAN. She knew that very well.
  - What would she think? Has her touch made the Lord unclean?
  - FEAR would have gripped her heart. She was found out!

31 And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, ‘Who touched me?’” 32 And he looked around to see who had done it.

- You’ve got to love the disciples! What do you mean who touched you? You are in the middle of a mob! Everybody is touching you.

33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. 34 And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

- ONCE AGAIN here in Mark 5 we find someone in the presence of the Lord who is trembling in fear. This is becoming a common occurrence.
  - Remember the disciples in the boat after Jesus calmed the sea, The crowd in Gadara when they saw the demoniac cleansed.
- I can only imagine that this woman was expecting the same kind of reception that she had received from everyone over the past 12 years. (ridicule and rejection)
- BUT Jesus speaks to her gently with affection and kindness. “Daughter” is a term of affection and it alludes to the adopting grace that is freely given to those who are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus.
- Jesus said: “Your faith has made you well.” The word translated “Well” is (SOZEIN) it speaks of the wholeness, the wellness of salvation. It could rightly be translated, “Daughter your faith has saved you.”
- The woman’s UNCLEANNESS is removed completely by Lord Jesus. She is now whole and can be united with the company of the saints in worship to the Living God.

Titus 3: 4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

### Hope Resurrected

Now remember that Jairus has been impatiently waiting as the woman speaks with Jesus. You can almost see his face drop when someone from his house arrives.

Mark 5: 35 While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler’s house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” 36 But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.”

- Jairus has just seen the cleansing power of Christ displayed through the healing of the woman.
- He must have heard the words that Jesus spoke, ““Daughter, your faith has made you well; and now Jesus says, “Do not fear only believe!”
- Jesus goes to the home of Jairus, he sends the mourners away and takes Peter James and John into the room with him.

Mark 5:41 Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.”<sup>42</sup> And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement.

- According to the Law of Moses Death was the ultimate defilement.
- By simply contacting a corpse an individual made himself “Unclean” for a period of 7 days. HE was then required to go through multiple washings in order to be declared clean.

Numbers 19:11, Whoever touches the dead body of any person shall be unclean seven days. 12 He shall cleanse himself with the water on the third day and on the seventh day, and so be clean. But if he does not cleanse himself on the third day and on the seventh day, he will not become clean.

- But here in Mark 5 Jesus touches the dead body of Jairus’ daughter and HE does NOT become unclean; INSTEAD she is raised from the dead.
- Jesus was touched by the Woman with the issue of blood and He was not made unclean INSTEAD she is made whole.
- The grace and mercy of our loving Redeemer breaks the power of sin in those who believe. By grace through faith the filthy are washed, given new life.

APPLICATION:

In Mark’s narrative Jairus is a man of distinction, a man of significant means. He is a valuable and influential member of the community and He comes openly to the Lord Jesus when he makes his request.

The Woman, on the other hand, is nameless, her condition has separated her from the community. She would be considered walking pollution, everything she touched would be made unclean. Her approach to Jesus must be done in secret.

By sandwiching these two people together Mark displays the far reaches of the grace of God in Jesus Christ.

The vast spectrum of humanity, every one of us, rich and poor, male and female, honored and dishonored, Jew and Gentile alike were all separated from God, and declared to be unclean because of sin.

When our original parents sinned in the Garden of Eden, they became unclean and God drove them out, away from his presence and the whole earth was cursed.

- God is holy and sinful man is “Unclean.”
- The Prophets of old foretold a day when God himself would provide a cleansing fountain for sinful man.

Zechariah 13:1 “On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.”

- The prophet Ezekiel said:

Ezekiel 36:25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and

give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

- SIX times God says, "I Will."
- We are not made clean by the works of our own hands but by the mercy and grace of God that is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ.

Both Jairus and the unnamed woman came to the Lord in humble desperation.

- Both of them believed that Jesus was able to restore their lives and make them clean.
- For all of us, who believe, We have been washed, cleansed by the grace of God through faith in the Lord Jesus.
- BUT like my dog Jake there are times when we stumble into to something that defiles us. (we yield to the dog nature of our flesh)
- One the night that Jesus was betrayed he washed the feet of his disciples.
- He told them that he who is washed need only have his feet washed.

1 John 1: 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.