

Opening: Children's sayings ...

Text today **Mark chapter 5**

Introduction: *How does a person see without seeing?*

Have you ever asked the question when did that put that there, only to find out it had been there for weeks even months but you had not noticed it even though you walk, drive, jog by that place frequently.

Some how you just didn't notice, you looked at it daily but did not see it.

A Friday afternoon, an empty Junior High and an emergency alert system
We are sometimes oblivious

I have read Mark Chapter 5 many times, and have spoken on it many times over the years, but some how never noticed what I am going to share with you today.

The chapter includes three miracles, yet I never noticed how each one impacts the other. So what do a demon possessed man, a sick woman and dying 12 year old have to do with each other? Lets find out.

I. Taking a Closer Look

Read **Mark Chapter 5: 1-20** Jesus healed and delivered a demon-possessed man.

Profile: This man with no name was homeless living in a cemetery, was unclothed, filthy and unkept, extremely violent and dangerous, had un-natural physical strength, was beaten and bloody, tortured, in severe pain physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally. Apparently he had terrorized the area authorities had tried to bind him with chains that he would break in pieces. People were warned to avoid the area.

So overwhelming were the spiritual forces within this man that once released they drove an entire heard of 2,000 pigs to a suicidal plunge off a cliff to drown in the sea.

This is the condition this man was in when he ran screaming at Jesus on the shore of the Gadarenes.

Note ... **Jesus was going there specifically to see him**

Even more startling was the reaction of the locals once they find this man bathed, clothed delivered and seated with Jesus. For a moment they speechless, Fear sweeps over them and they beg Jesus to leave the country.

Jesus accomplished what he had come for to set the captive free, and he left an emissary a missionary, with instructions to go to the ten cities of the area and tell all that God had done for him.

Isn't that what Jesus does with us heals our heart but leaves us here to spread the news to the people around us?

II. Jesus heals in response to faith

Read Mark 5:21-23

Returning to the other side of the Sea, probably at Capernaum, Jesus is surrounded at the shoreline.

However, Mark records that attention was focused on Jairus the leader of the local Synagogue who falls at Jesus feet begging him to come and lay his hands on his dying daughter, so she might live.

More than faith he exercised hope in the power of Jesus.

Jairus risked everything by doing this publicly in front of Jesus.

The leader of a synagogue was an elected position to an administrative post.

His job was prestigious, including selection and scheduling of rabbis for speaking, control and responsibility of the synagogue.

Politically he would have had a strong connection to the religious hierarchy of Temple Priests, scribes and other avowed enemies of Jesus.

Think about it, Jairus threw himself at the feet of Jesus humbling himself begging Jesus for the life of his daughter.

His love for his daughter brought him face to feet with Jesus.

The Woman with the issue of blood Read Mark 5: 24-34

Her condition was devastating for three reasons:

1. For 12 years she had suffered through medical procedures, and painful surgeries only to get worse. Discouraging
2. She had exhausted her funds and may have been destitute

3. She had become a religious and social outcast.

Her condition was likely vaginal or uterine hemorrhaging. According to the Levitical law, the Law of Moses', a woman was marked as unclean during the menstrual cycle. Since her bleeding never stopped she became an out cast ... unclean ... reduced to the status of a leper.

This is why she came up behind Jesus, pressing through the crowd, she could not ask Jesus to touch her; he would have become unclean by laying his hands on her. So she reached for the hem or fringe of his tunic.

Also why she was so frightened to come forward, after being healed thinking Jesus would be angry with her. Instead he speaks the words "daughter your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

For a moment ... She was speechless

-3-

At that moment of the woman's healing, while Jesus was still speaking to her, Jairus may have momentarily forgotten his urgency. The messenger from his home with the news, your daughter is dead its too late, must have crushed him.

Have you ever gotten that kind of hopeless news? Many of you know what I am talking about.

I remember when the Oncologist walked out of the operating room to tell my brother, sister and I that he was sorry. There was nothing he could do, that the cancer would claim my mother's life in about one year. I remember trying to grasp those words and being unable to do so at first, gripped by hopelessness and fear.

The words of Jesus are riveting. For a moment it must have been as though ever one else was in slow motion and only Jesus and Jairus were in contact with each other. Jairus saw only the face and eyes of Jesus " Don't be afraid. Just trust me."

There was healing and hope in the words themselves.

Jesus speaks to the child a 7th grader. In Aramaic ... "*tlitha cumi*" one translation is ... my little lamb, get up.

His parents were overwhelmed "speechless"

Amazing? Astounding? Jesus said to his disciples greater things than these shall you do.

Conclusion

In this one chapter of Mark, Jesus delivered the demoniac, healed the hemorrhaging woman, and brought a 12 year old from the dead.

All three situations were different but all desperate.

- A. The demon-possessed man had no power to even ask for help. It was who Jesus went there specifically to deliver him.
- B. The woman, secretly, courageously reached out to Jesus. Jesus did not lay hands on her, did not direct the healing he didn't know who had touched him in the pressing crowd.
- C. Jairus daughter was already dead, she could not believe, and Jesus words to a man who had lost hope were "*don't be afraid, just trust me.*"
It wasn't Jairus faith that healed that child but Jesus compassion.

All three miracles demonstrate the love of God through Jesus, His son and Messiah. This is the same love that God has for you now today.

Hebrews 13:8 “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

-4-

Closing

The doctors have not been able to help, but Jesus’ words to you are, *just trust me*.

You are in prison emotionally; mentally exhausted you are fighting hopelessness but feel you are losing the battle. Jesus is here to deliver you.

In Luke 4:18-21 Jesus stood and read this text about himself from *Isaiah 61:1,2* as he returned to his home town in Nazareth

Luke 4:18 *“The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave [it] again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, this day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.”*

This is his mission still today to heal, deliver, cleanse, restore, refresh and commune with you.