

FAITH HONORED
MARK 5:21-43

Oswald Chambers in Run Today's Race

- Faith for my deliverance is not faith in God. Faith means, whether I am visibly delivered or not, I will stick to my belief that God is love. There are some things only learned in a fiery furnace.

Hebrews 11:6 NIV And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- There are the two conditions set by God before we can successfully come before or to Him
- You know He exists and He rewards those who seek after Him with all that is you
 - Not in perfection

Hebrews 11:1-3 NIV 1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

- The context of this scripture is the sacrifice of Christ and what belief in that brings us
- This is not so much a definition but rather a description of faith

Warren Wiersbe, “True Biblical faith is not blind optimism or a manufactured “hope-so” feeling. Neither is it an intellectual assent to a doctrine. It is certainly not believing in spite of evidence.”

- True Biblical faith is confident obedience to God’s Word in spite of our circumstances and consequences

There is nothing that propels us toward faith more than despair

- Despair = the complete loss or absence of hope, hopelessness
- When we get to the point all we have are God's promises and His character

We see here faith overruling fleshly pride, **Mark 5:21-24**

- 21 When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. 22 Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. 23 He pleaded earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.” 24 So Jesus went with him.

We see here faith overruling fleshly pride,

- Human pride keeps us from receiving all the blessings that God desire to fill our lives with
- **Genesis 4:6-7 NLT** 6 “Why are you so angry?” the Lord asked Cain. “Why do you look so dejected? 7 You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.”

We see here faith overruling fleshly pride,

- Jairus' need was so great, he set aside what other would say, how it would look, what it might cost him and came to Jesus in faith
- **vs. 22** He came to where Jesus was at, fell at Jesus' feet, pleaded earnestly (*with all his heart and soul*)
- Jesus responded to Jairus' faith and went with him.
- This is Jesus' way of saying yes, I will heal her, let's go do this

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored, **Mark 5:25-34**

- A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25 And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26 She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored, **Mark 5:25-34**

- 28 because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” 29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. 30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored, **Mark 5:25-34**

- 31 “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’ ”32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored

- Scorn = Contempt or disdain felt toward a person or object considered despicable or unworthy
 - Disdain = the feeling that someone or something is unworthy of one's consideration or respect
- She was devalued by society and considered cursed by God

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored

- She could not join in normal social activities – isolation
- According to the Law she was ritually unclean and could not participate in any religious activities at the temple – rejection
- She could be stoned for just being amongst the people because they would become ritually unclean if she just touched them – fear

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored

- That is why she came to Jesus as she did
- There is a difference in bumping into Jesus and reaching out purposefully touching Him in faith
 - **vs. 30-31** Who touched my clothes (*garment*)
 - Notice how specific that is

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored

- Jesus desired not just a healing but a restored relationship with this woman
- She told Jesus everything, didn't hide any of the facts no mattering how embarrassing they were
- **vs. 34** Jesus called her "*Daughter*" as a sign of family acceptance, God's acceptance of her

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored

- She would no longer remember the tassels on Jesus' garment but the eyes of the one accepting her
- It wasn't the garment, but the faith in the healing power of Jesus
- The object of faith is much more important than the quality of faith

We observe simple faith overcoming scorn and being honored

- This was also a sign to Jairus
 - Just as much as you love your daughter, I love the wounded, now healed, daughter of mine

We see faith conquering hopelessness, **Mark 5:35-43**

- 35 While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?” 36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” 37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James.

We see faith conquering hopelessness, **Mark 5:35-43**

- 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39 He went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep (*resting*).” 40 But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child’s father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

We see faith conquering hopelessness, **Mark 5:35-43**

- 41 He took her by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum!” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). 42 Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. 43 He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

We see faith conquering hopelessness

- **vs. 35** hopelessness overcomes Jairus
 - Not even Jesus can do anything about his, don't bother Him anymore

We see faith conquering hopelessness

- **vs. 36** Jesus ignores hopelessness
 - Just believe what?
 - Jesus told Jairus he would go to his house and heal his daughter, and nothing has change that
 - Jairus, believe what I have promised and have the authority to do

We see faith conquering hopelessness

- **vs. 40** how hopelessness scorns those who trust God, they continued to laugh and make fun of Jesus
 - Notice Jesus put the scorers outside, paid no attention to them and did not let them disrupting this teaching moment

We see faith conquering hopelessness

- vs. 41 “Little lamb, I say to you, get up.”
- Not wake up or become alive and alert
- Immediately the girl (*jumped*) out of bed and began walking around as evidence of complete healing
- Notice Jesus took Jairus from simple faith to overcoming faith
- It took the process of waiting for the faith of Jairus to mature from simple faith to overcoming faith

For humility to displace skepticism, we often must reach the point of desperation

- When we reach desperation, humility comes naturally
- C. S. Lewis, “Pain plants a flag of truth within the fortress of a rebel soul.”

For trust to eclipse our panic, we must learn the value of delay

- After a while in the process of waiting and waiting and waiting, we relinquish our circumstances to God
- When we do, quiet, calm trust rushes in to replace our knee-jerk panic
- God is not almost sovereign
- He knows the situation entirely

For faith to replace our fears, we must steer clear of the naysayers

- If you are running with people who keep your faith shallow and weak, you will never learn to trust God
- If you maintain relationships that are unhealthy, you will never see beyond your circumstances

For faith to replace our fears, we must steer clear of the naysayers

- One naysayer can poison an entire group
 - They feed on doubt
 - They only know what cannot be done and have no concept of the vertical relationship with Jesus Christ

For faith to replace our fears, we must steer clear of the naysayers

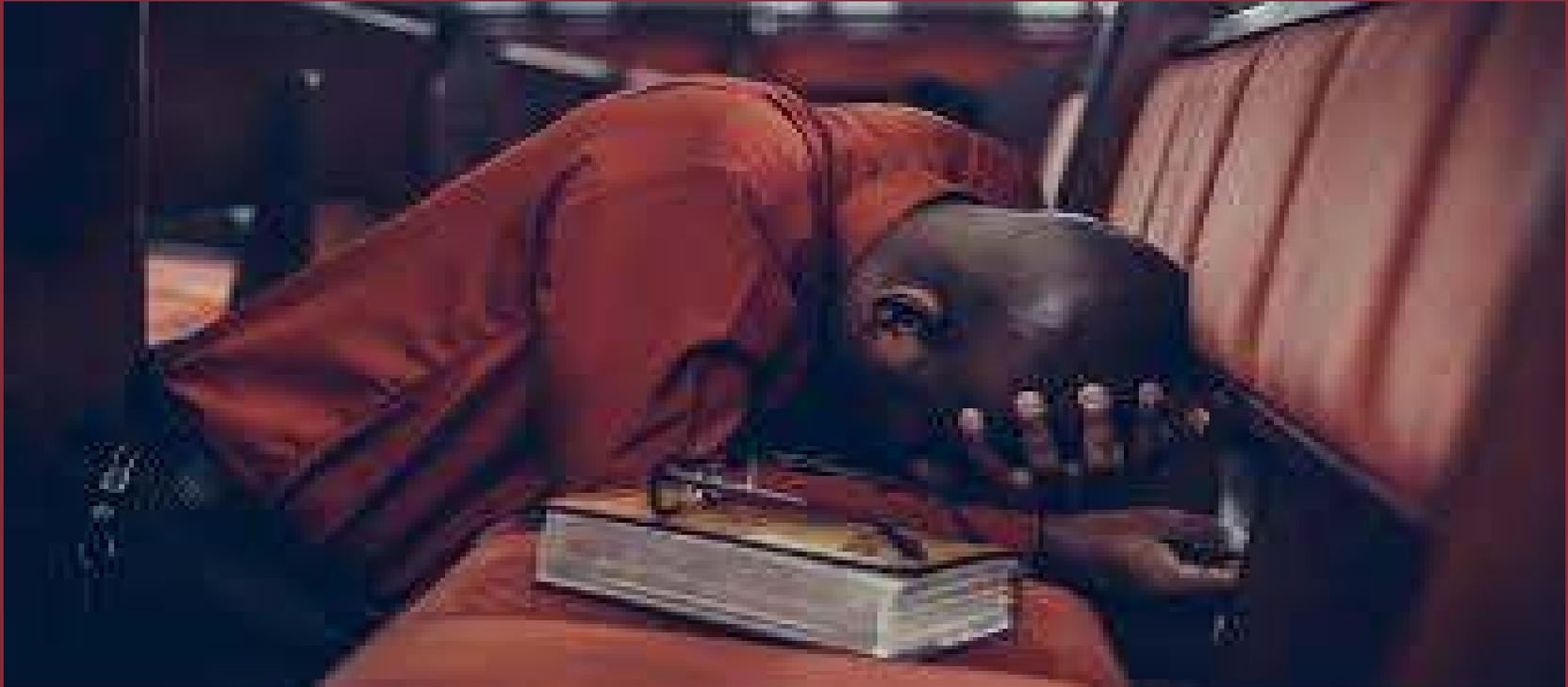
- **Hebrews 10:25 NLT** And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.
- Jesus takes our faith where it is at and proceeds to mature it in us the rest of our lives

Faith in God makes great optimists.

- Over in Burma, Judson was lying in a foul jail with 32 lbs. of chains on his ankles, his feet bound to a bamboo pole. A fellow prisoner said, "Dr. Judson, what about the prospect of the conversion of the heathen?", with a sneer on his face. His instant reply was, "The prospects are just as bright as the promises of God."
- True faith takes many shapes
- True faith honors God and God honors true faith

True faith takes many shapes

- Don't look down upon your faith just because you think it is weak
 - This is Satan's way of preventing you from stepping out in your faith, no matter the depth of it
 - Remember the boy who had loaves and fishes that Jesus used to feed 5,000 men plus others
 - He honored Jesus by trusting Him with his lunch



**True faith, no matter the depth, honors God and
God honors true faith**