

Luke 8:40-56 Only Believe

I. **What a great day it will be when JESUS comes back to rule and reign over all things!**

Revelation 11:15 "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

- A. But we can experience a little kingdom of heaven on earth right now.
 - 1. All it takes is allowing JESUS to have HIS rightful place as KING of kings and LORD of lords over our lives!
 - 2. And the more we surrender and submit, the more we rise above of this present evil age!
 - 3. JESUS is LORD, and HE will rule and reign, but is HE your LORD today? Is HE ruling and reigning over you right now?
- B. Throughout the Gospels we read how JESUS exercised HIS authority over all things, including sickness, sin, time, eternity, relations, creation, demons and death.
 - 1. HIS miracles were so amazing - no one questioned their validity.
 - 2. JESUS proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that HE IS LORD.
- C. Therefore, if someone rejected HIM it wasn't a matter of proof, it was a matter of their stubborn will.

John 5:40 But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

John 14:11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

- D. And HIS greatest miracle was HIS OWN resurrection from the dead!
- E. Again, JESUS IS LORD, but have you asked HIM to be your LORD?

II. **As you remember from last week's study, JESUS and His disciples sailed to the eastern side of the Galilee Sea,**

- A. But in the middle of their voyage a violent storm arose.
 - 1. JESUS rebuked the wind and the waves, and then HE rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith,
 - 2. For HE had promised them from the beginning that they were going to go over to the other side.
 - 3. Therefore, whatever happened along the way was inconsequential;

4. For nothing, not even a violent storm, could nullify HIS WORD!
- B. While on the other side JESUS cast out a legion of demons from a man into a large herd of pigs.
1. JESUS created deviled ham.
 2. And the pigs ran down a steep place into the Sea of Galilee and drowned - committing "sooey-cide".
 3. Not only did JESUS deliver the man from demons, but HE also destroyed an illegal pig farm in the process!
 4. JESUS is the great miracle multi-tasker!
- C. In this next section JESUS continues to multitask and exercise HIS authority over disease and death.

III. Vss 40-42 When reputation no longer matters

40 So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him. 41 And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, 42 for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him.

- A. As the ruler of the Synagogue, Jairus was a highly respected leader in the community.
1. In addition to maintaining the building, the ruler of the Synagogue was to arrange for Rabbis to teach.
 2. Jairus had JESUS teach often, and had seen HIS many miracles.
- B. But there was growing opposition to JESUS, and some who sided with JESUS had even been excommunicated from the Synagogues and from Jewish society as a whole.
- C. Jairus took a great risk coming to JESUS, knowing he would lose his reputation, his job, and his influence in the community.
1. But there was something he cared about more – his daughter.
 2. And in light of his terminally ill daughter his reputation and standing in the community meant nothing to him!
- D. People will give many reasons for why they don't want to believe in JESUS.
1. And those reasons can seem very important - until tragedy strikes.

2. Just as a soldier knows, “There are no atheists in fox-holes”,
 3. Even so, when tragedy strikes, those so-called “intellectual obstacles” go by the wayside.
- E. Again, Jairus was risking everything by coming to JESUS.
1. But he also knew that by not coming to JESUS, his daughter would die.
 2. So reputation and all other excuses be hanged - he begged JESUS to come and heal his daughter.
- F. But on the way something, someone impeded HIS progress.

IV. Vss 43-48 JESUS restores completely

43 Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any,

- A. This woman not only grew sicker, but she also grew broke!
- B. I believe that if a person is sick they should first pray.
1. If they don't get better, then see a doctor.
 2. But even then, doctors are limited, for there are many ailments that cannot be cured through modern medicine.
- C. But what is impossible for man is possible with GOD.
1. This woman had heard of the healing power of JESUS CHRIST.
 2. She had tried everything else, so in desperation she came to HIM as her last and final hope.
- D. Maybe someone here is like that lady.
1. You have tried everything else, but nothing brings you relief from your burden.
 2. JESUS promises that if you give HIM your life, HE will relieve you from your burden!

Psalm 55:22a Cast your burden on the LORD, and He shall sustain you;

1 Peter 5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

- E. This woman suffered more than a 12 year long menstrual cycle.

Leviticus 15:25-30 'If a woman has a discharge of blood for many days, other than at the time of her customary impurity, or if it runs beyond her usual time of impurity, all the days of her unclean discharge shall be as the days of her customary impurity. She shall be unclean. 26 Every bed on which she lies all the days of her discharge shall be to

her as the bed of her impurity; and whatever she sits on shall be unclean, as the uncleanness of her impurity. 27 Whoever touches those things shall be unclean; he shall wash his clothes and bathe in water, and be unclean until evening.

F. For twelve years she had been cut off from family, friends, and from fellowship in the Synagogues and at the Temple.

1. If she had been married it was very likely that her husband had divorced her long ago.
2. And whatever she came in contact with became unclean.

G. For 12 years she existed as if she was dead - but she knew JESUS gives life!

44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped.

H. How did she figure that touching the border of HIS garment would cure her?

1. It could be that she knew the prophecy of Malachi 4:2

Malachi 4:2a But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; ...

2. The Hebrew word for “wings” is “kanaph”, which can also be translated “edge of a garment or blanket”.
3. JESUS’ garment was edged with not just a hem, but on each of the 4 corners was a tassel.

Numbers 15:38,39 “Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels (*Tsiytsiyt*) on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. 39 And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined,

I. So perhaps this woman thought, “If I can grab ahold of one of JESUS’ tassels, I will be healed as Malachi said!”

1. And she was right!
2. But it wasn’t because of some magic in the tassel.
3. It was because she exercised her faith, for JESUS later said, “your faith has made you whole.”
4. For her, the tassel was merely a point of contact for her faith.

5. She believed that JESUS could heal her, but she exercised her faith when she said, "I believe JESUS will heal me when I touch HIS tassel - right now!"

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

- J. The man or woman of faith is one who sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, believes the incredible, and so is able to do the impossible.
- K. Prayer mostly changes the one who prays, but faith changes things.
 1. Not simply believing that JESUS can,
 2. But that HE will - and right now!
- L. Again, according to the Law, the woman was unclean, making everything she touched also become unclean.
- M. But JESUS is the perfect, spotless, completely clean LAMB of GOD!
 1. And nothing or no one can make HIM unclean.
 2. Therefore, whoever touched HIM would be made clean!
 3. Based on HIS all-powerful, incorruptible purity and perfection, when she touched HIM she just knew she had to be made clean!
- N. That's faith: touching JESUS, knowing that HE will make you clean.
- O. And if you feel even a little bit dirty today, if you will touch JESUS by faith HE will make you clean!

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD, "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

- P. By the way, her act of touching JESUS by faith became a powerful testimony to many who were hurting.

Mark 6:56 Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.

- Q. Do you need healing? Let's reach out and touch JESUS by faith today - this morning!

45 And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "

- R. "He touched YOU, she touched YOU, we touched YOU, everybody touched YOU! The better question is who didn't touch YOU!"

46 But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me."

- S. Again, there's a real difference between believing JESUS can, and really laying hold of HIM by faith.
1. This woman laid hold of JESUS in faith, and was healed!
 2. I'm sure that JESUS knew all along who had touched HIM and was healed,
 3. But notice that JESUS insisted that she publicly proclaim what GOD had done for her.
- T. We need to tell the world what the LORD has done for us, and what HE can do for them!
1. JESUS is coming soon, and people are dying daily and going into eternal judgment.
 2. There is no time left for being shy or quiet about JESUS!
- 47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. 48 And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."
- U. There is a BIG lesson in this for us.
1. We come to JESUS as needy, unclean sinners.
 2. But based on HIS all-powerful, incorruptible purity and perfection, when we touch HIM by faith, we are made clean!
- V. Perhaps today someone here might need healing, cleansing, or deliverance.
1. Reach out by faith and lay hold of JESUS,
 2. And HIS all-powerful, incorruptible purity and perfection will flow to you!
- W. What a glorious day for this woman!
- X. But for Jairus things were about to go from bad to worse.
1. I can only imagine how frustrated Jairus had become.
 2. His 12 year old daughter, his only child, the joy of his heart, was dying.
 3. And this lady, who was suffering, yet not on the brink of death, had halted JESUS from coming to heal his daughter.

4. And then JESUS stopped! Why did HE have to stop? That woman was content to touch HIS tassel and be on her way.
 5. And JESUS said to the woman, “Daughter”.
 6. No doubt further driving the point home that his daughter lay dying.
- Y. And then his heart truly sank when he saw familiar, yet grief-stricken faces coming toward him from his house.

V. Vss 49-55 Only believe JESUS

49 While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue’s house, saying to him, “Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher.” 50 But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, “Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well.”

- A. The difference between peace and panic, calm and calamity, is to **only** believe in JESUS’ promises, and ignore everything else.
1. HE had told Jairus that HE would come to heal his daughter, and nothing – not even death – could nullify HIS promises.
 2. So Jairus had a choice: either **only** believe JESUS and be at rest, or believe the people and have an emotional breakdown!

51 When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. 52 Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, “Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping.” 53 And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead.

- B. These mourners were not friends and family, but were hired professional mourners and flute players to announce to the neighborhood that there was a death in the family.
1. The flute players became so good at playing in such a loud, shrill manner that the Roman Government limited the number of them for each occasion to four.
 2. So when JESUS said that she was not dead, they ridiculed HIM.
 3. “Hey, we’re death professionals. We know dead when we see it!”
 4. Yes, they knew death when they saw it, but they didn’t know the power of GOD when they saw HIM!

54 But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, “Little girl, arise.” 55 Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat.

- C. How wonderful our LORD JESUS is, WHO not only raised her from the dead, but made sure her basic needs were taken care of.

56 And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

- D. What a wonderful miracle JESUS performed! I'm sure that Jairus was and still is eternally grateful for what JESUS did for him.

VI. We all have a disease far worse than a flow of blood, or even a terminal illness: the eternally deadly disease of sin!

- A. Inherited by our father and mother Adam and Eve, and propagated through our own wickedness and rebellion, sin brings forth death;
- B. Spiritual death, and the soul who sins shall surely die!
- C. But there is ONE WHO has defeated sin and death on the cross and in HIS resurrection,
 - 1. WHO is here today reaching out to us, "extending HIS tassel".
 - 2. WHO is available for us to reach out to HIM and grab hold of by faith so that we can be healed of sin and its eternal consequences.
- D. If you would like to receive JESUS for the first time, we invite you to come forward after the closing song.
- E. If you already believe in JESUS and you want to touch HIM by faith to receive healing or power to overcome, then you also come forward after the closing song
- F. The elders will be available to pray with you.