

Study Guide: The Path of Faith

Carter Sanger, Feb-10

Introduction

Read Mark 5:21-43.

- Do you have a story faith story? How did your faith come?

I. Born in Despair

Despair could be defined as a failed faith in something.

- Have you ever felt despair? Desperate? Why?
- Have you ever felt desperate for your children? Why?
- How did you get out of your despair? What about you changed?

II. Broken by Demands

The things we put faith in always make demands of us.

- If your faith is in money, what kinds of demands does it make of you? Can you think of other examples?
- What kinds of unexpected demands (or costs) must the woman in Mark's passage pay?
- What kinds of unexpected demands (or costs) come to Jairus?
- What would you find the hardest to give up if God were to demand it of you? Why?

III. Bound to Deliverer

You are always bound to the one/thing you put your faith in.

- According to verse 34, what does the woman gain in addition to her bodily healing? Was she looking for this? What does this say about the way God answers your prayers?
- According to verse 41, how does Jesus' tender speech strike you? Is it hard to imagine hearing such tender words from the Lord spoken to you?
- What did Jairus expect and what did he receive? It is one thing to heal a person "mostly dead." It is quite another to heal a person "all dead." What is Jesus teaching us about who he is?
- Read Leviticus 15:25-31. According to Levitical law, what happened to Jesus when the woman touched him?
- A washing was required to be made clean. What kind of "washing" (or baptism) did Jesus go through in order to be made clean? Read Luke 12:50 for help.
- What is so different about being bound to Jesus than some other faith object? What is it that Jesus can do that others cannot?

Wrap-up

- As you reflect about your own faith, to what does it point? Where do you go when in despair? What demands of you do you pay? What is it that you are thus bound to?