Jesus Interrupted? (No Problem)

Mark 5:21-29

Observations

- Have you ever had the experience of failing to be prioritized by a store representative while there making a request?
- You make a request; and on the way back behind the counter to address your request, your store clerk gets bombarded with other important requests. That leaves you wondering about the significance of yours.
- Does your store representative remember your request or are they ignoring it?
- Is your request as important to them as you thought it was?
 Are you as important as you thought you were?
- Should you find another store rep and start over?

This Was Jairus' Dilemma In Mark 5!

- Jairus was a Jewish synagogue leader, who at that time had a position well-respected in the community
- He also had a huge problem over which he apparently had very little control at this point, verses 22-23
- Mark, the gospel writer, says that Jairus' daughter was dying, not at a hospital I.C.U., but at his home
- Jairus had heard that Jesus was in the vicinity of his house
- And so, he leaves his house where his daughter lay dying (at death's door, The Msg.) in search for Jesus (tough move)
- At the same time of the day, Jesus had already attracted a large crowd, and was busy. Jairus navigates his way through the crowd to have an emergent, personal conversation with Jesus, to make a request of Jesus to come to his house

Observations

- With the crowd pressing against Jairus and Jesus, Jairus tells
 Jesus that his daughter is sick and dying; and he pleads with
 Jesus to come by and lay hands on her so that God, working
 through Jesus, would possibly cause her symptoms to
 improve
- Notice that Jesus changes His plans immediately and went with him (verse 24) "So Jesus went with him."
- Note that if Jairus had not approached Jesus, this story would not have occurred

Question: Don't you think that Jesus can still change His plans for you based on your fluid needs (our needs change)?

Observations

- As Jesus changes direction so does the crowd, headed to Jairus' house for an acute, and emergent situation
- But in this mass of People with Jesus, there is a woman with a chronic problem who is trying to get to Him too, verse 25
- For twelve years Mark says that this woman had suffered from spontaneous episodes of bleeding. (Gynecological, Hematological Clotting Deficiency, Malignancy perhaps)
- Mark says that she had suffered for many years under the care "of many doctors," verse 26 (you know how we try treatments; that's why we call it, The Practice of Medicine)
- Financially the bleeding problem had caused her to exhaust her savings. She had nothing left financially and was not better physically. This woman was physically sick and getting worse, verse 26, and now, financially broke!

How Different Were These Two Jewish Believers Confronting Jesus?

- Jairus is a male in a society where men get all the breaks
- This woman was just that—a woman—not high on the pecking order in Jewish circles
- Jairus was also a religious official, relatively high in social standing. People, no doubt, knew who Jairus was and respected him (near the top of the food chain)
- This woman, having bled for twelve years was on "Lockdown," socially and religiously isolated, and hardly ever seen.
- According to the rules of the Law of Moses, she was ceremonially unclean (untouchable)

Jesus Was Challenged By Two Needs That In Some Ways Were Polar Opposites!

- If you were an E.R. physician and you were on your way to handle an acute situation; and someone with a chronic problem shows up with a need, what would you do?
- Jairus' daughter's situation was fluid (getting worse by the minute)
- The woman's situation was chronic, 12 years in duration
- Society would say that if you treated the chronic before you did the acute, and the acute suffered significantly, because of your delay; you would need to prepare yourself for a legal challenge of possible malpractice (wrongful death, etc.)
- Factually, in this case with plenty of witnesses, Jesus handles the chronic before the acute (imagine the neg. testimonies)

Christ Knew That His Spirit of Grace Had Been Used Therapeutically In the Crowd!

- So, He says in verse 30, "Who touched my clothes?"
- The disciples answer almost incredulously, "It's crowded out here Jesus, it could have been a lot of people that touched you, don't you understand that?!" verse 31
- But Jesus and the woman knew that something had happened between the two of them, that nobody else would have known; and so she identifies herself and falls at Jesus' feet and tells Him the whole truth, verses 30-33

Question:

Hasn't Jesus Ever Separated You From Your Crowd With His Touch? A Touch You Recognized That Nobody Else Recognized!

Even In Your Crowd, Or Your Daily Life, Hasn't Jesus Touched You Too (Personally)?

- When you were sick, and nobody else had what you had; did you feel the Jesus touch?
- When you or your child needed a job, even with so many applications, and so few positions; did you feel the Jesus touch (a sequence of events or a person who was key)?
- When the money ran out, and your resources were scarce; do you remember that "ram in the bush," that stimulus you received, that person you met, or opportunity you were given—didn't you feel the Jesus touch?
- When you were about to, "get deeply involved," and tied your hard earned resources up with "a crook," did you experience the, Jesus "tug", that fortunately caused you to say, "thanks honey/bro but no thanks!" (Their true ways were revealed)

Know This:

- When God Touches You Personally, He is Asking Something From You Personally!
- This Woman Left Jesus a Changed Person!
- When You Know That Jesus Has Singled You Out and Addressed Your Issues (like she did), He Wants to See a Change in You! (Come Forward! Verse 33)
- Come Forward With a Life Lived In Appreciation for What He Has Done for You!
- Everybody in the Crowd Didn't Need What You Needed!
- Jesus' Interruption Is Your Salvation!
- What Does He Get In Return?

Finally, Jesus' Grace Doesn't Operate On Our Timing!

- Had Jesus forgotten about Jairus' daughter? (He was first)
- All this precious time had gone by; and the people had come from Jairus' house to let him know that his daughter had passed, verse 35, "Don't bother the preacher anymore." Your daughter has passed." What did Jairus feel? (Despondent)

Jesus Had Several Reasons for His Delay:

- 1) To transform a woman physically and spiritually
- 2) To increase the faith of Jairus
- 3) Jairus' faith would now reach a level that he had never experienced. Jesus already knew the child's status
- 4) So now Jairus' faith is increased by raising his dead child

What Do We Learn From "Jesus Interrupted"

- Interruption doesn't mean, apathy or abandonment, but delays are opportunities for God to increase our faith
- God's sense of timing is not predicated on <u>our</u> intelligence, or <u>our</u> projections, Isaiah 55:8,9
- When Jesus comes to our rescue, He has facts that we don't have (companies and even people are not reliable)
- The Power of God is so strong, that it lifts Jairus' daughter upright through death, verses 40-43

Peter, James, and John served as eye witnesses (like you and me, verse 37-40, thus increasing their faith)

• Therefore, if we belong to Christ, death itself is nothing more than, "a good night's sleep" Revelations 14:13

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent Of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38