

## Church Disrupt Mark 5:21-43

### Intro

We all face disruptions...

some are small, some are big, some are catastrophic and life changing  
for some the disruptions are good, some they seem to turnout bad

Jesus faced many disruptions in his time on earth

He came to preach the good news, to heal, and to die for sin

Earlier in mark, the friends who lowered the paralytic through the  
roof while He was teaching

Another is while sleeping on a boat, the great storm that came up

But today we are going to see a disruption of a man's plan who  
comes to get Jesus and takes Him home to heal his dying  
daughter.

Mark is written in a time when persecution of the Christians in the Roman empire is starting to rise. His writing styles has a sense of urgency in it. The author writes to tell those about who Jesus is...and he makes a clear statement for us in the beginning of this gospel, "Jesus is the Son of God." On the front of your bulletins, maybe you have seen on the newsletter, or website, I have put "Study in Mark: Jesus is." Mark shows us who Jesus is.

Throughout Mark we see Jesus is compassionate. Jesus is teacher. Jesus is a miracle worker. Jesus is healer. Jesus is God. He has power over creation. Jesus gives life to that which is dead. Jesus has an agenda, and no matter the disruptions that come, He accomplishes His will. There may big obstacles that come in His way, but those obstacles will not stop Him from accomplishing His plans. And, we must remember His plans are good. The enemies plans are not for good, but for evil.

Mark shows us that Jesus is greater. Mark shows us Jesus has power in His word, power to work miracles of healing, power over creation by calming a great storm, power over demons, power over disease and sickness. Mark shows us that Jesus is worth trusting and following. He has power to accomplish what He set out to do. Jesus came to save the lost. He came to bring eternal life to the eternally dead. Jesus came to conquer the power of sin and the spiritual death it brought. Jesus came to restore the separation that sin causes between us and God. And He can do it. He has the power to do it. He did it. We can trust it. So we can take to heart these words He speaks that we are about to read, "Do not be afraid. Keep on believing".

Read Mark 5:21-43

v. 21-24

\*Jairus- synagogue leader. Most likely had ties to pharisees; this guy shows his desperation for his daughter to be healed

\*wherever Jesus goes, there is a crowd 'What is he going to do next?'

v. 25

\*in walks the disruption

\*she too was desperate for a healing; she had 12 years of suffering, and no doctor could fix the problem

v27-28 woman, having heard of Jesus

-it was believed that the clothes of a great religious man had power

-she touched his clothes. explains why Jesus stops to clear up who touched him. Not because there was something magical and he needed the acknowledgment, but to build a relationship seen and pour value into her...

-shown in his new name for her "Daughter..."

v 31-34

With so many people touching Him, He noticed the importance of one of those touches. Why? Because it had a different purpose in that touch. It was a touch that came from faith. Jesus could have kept going, but He stopped and dealt with her. She wanted physical healing, and He gave her more. He acknowledged a lonely, hurting woman. He showed she had value by spending time with her. He listened to her.

Often times, when we come to Jesus with our little bit of faith, we really don't know what we are getting into. Our minds can't fathom the greatness of what is to come because it is so foreign to us, all we can see is the shallower things...a physical healing or maybe just the saving from the punishment of sin or there is some sense of hope in your bleak situation. And yet, Jesus gives us so much more than that. He gives us opportunity for relationship with Him, He gives us a new name that speaks of personal, intimate relationship, He promises to never leave, He builds us up, He brings us into what He is doing and allows us to be part of it, to get the blessings that come from being part of it, He pours out His glory upon us as we are part of it. He rewards us in eternity for what we did during the short time we lived out our faith on earth. God does so much more.

We often try and come to God all put together. He already sees the inconsistencies and our faults. We just come to Him and say, "Here I am". No matter how perfect or put together you are, it isn't good enough. God's standard is perfection. He is holy. Anything less is not good enough. That is why we come and it is by His grace He begins to do a good work in us. He comes in His grace. You might as well just come before you go through all the

work of trying to be put together and then be ready for Him to do something great in you.

The woman came in fear. What was Jesus going to do? Why was He asking who touched Him and then waiting? Was He going to shame her for bringing her unclean situation to him? Was He going to be mad because He now was tainted by her situation? Was He going to tell her how worthless she was and what a waste of time she is because of her uncleanliness? He wanted to speak life into her. Jesus is compassion. He isn't compassion without hope. His compassion is filled with hope for what the situation can become. She needed more than just physical healing, but emotional and spiritual. Her little bit of faith and fear mixed together was all she needed to come to Jesus and to be accepted by Jesus.

There is a time lapse that happens while dealing with the bleeding woman. Jesus waited for the woman to respond. Jesus took time to listen to her. Jesus spoke to her. This wasn't a 1 second interaction, but definitely was longer. Now the story shifts gears back to Jairus and his daughter. But, in that time lapse, tragedy had occurred. The messengers of Jairus's house brought bad news. The girl had died.

Imagine what may have been going through Jairus's head during the disruption to his plan because of this woman and Jesus's response?

She gets healed, his daughter dies. The anxiety and frustration and fear turned towards anger and maybe jealousy. She got what she wanted and didn't deserve, and he lost what he wanted and maybe thought he deserved. Maybe he is feeling like the older brother of the prodigal son?

v. 36

Notice Jesus hears and responds in confidence. It wasn't that Jesus overheard the girl died, and says, "oh boy, i wasted this time and look what happened. Now, I need to quickly figure out another way to accomplish what I set out to do" That has a different feeling to it then overhearing the conversation and being able to say, "Do not be afraid. Keep believing." Why? Because, there isn't uncertainty and "oh boys" in God working out what He has set out to accomplish. He is confident, sure, and pre-determined and pre-set up to accomplish what He set out to do. There are no 'maybe's' in God's economy. His 'yes' is a 'yes', his 'no' is a 'no'. He doesn't waffle in between. He isn't tossed by a wave back and forth. He is trustworthy.

V. 38

Matthew 9:23 mentions “minstrels”. Those that are hired to quicken the sorrow of those mourning. They were to make notice of someone who already died. This is how we know the daughter was dead.

v. 39

scripture many times uses the word “asleep” for those who are dead. Death is not the end all. Death is separation. Spiritual death is separation from God. Physical death is separation from this life. It is like sleeping because there will be a waking on the other side of physical death. Those who have been born again, made alive in Christ will go on to eternal life, and those who are not born again, made alive in Christ will remain dead and be eternally separated from God’s grace. They will suffer instead God’s wrath. The choice is yours today, which you will choose.

v. 40

We must be careful not to laugh at the power of Jesus. For all things are possible. If God wills it, He will accomplish it...and He can. Do not be afraid. Keep on believing. If God asks something that seems bigger than you, walk in faith towards it. Maybe you say, my faith isn’t big enough. You are correct. God isn’t asking you to have mountain sized faith. He gives us room to come with mustard seed sized faith and through that He does great things.

v. 41-43

Jesus takes her by the hand and speaks. The dead will rise. If you are a believer reading this during the time it was written, this would give you such hope. All the persecution and your prior beliefs no longer had to bring fear. It wasn’t by your actions of how good you are, how much you appeased the gods, or even what the authorities were sayings. It was what the fact you could trust God to resurrect you to eternal life, restoring you and completing you, and bringing you into a safe, perfect life with God in heaven.

Here is what I believe that God is wanting us to see and hear this morning. We live in a time of disruption. What are you going to do with it? Are you living as if you don’t have enough faith that God is going to accomplish His good plan in the midst of it? Are you believing that you don’t have enough faith to make it through if it gets harder, so you are scared? You aren’t asked to have mountain sized faith, you are asked to have mustard seed sized faith and then act upon what faith you have. God will meet you there and grow your faith. He will strengthen it. That is what God does. You are simply just asked to come and as you come, He grows your faith, and as you respond to Him growing your faith,

He grows your faith more, and as he grows your faith more, you respond to that, and He grows your faith more.

The point is not that every disruption is based off of a good purpose. Life has many disruptions in it that are filled with tragedy. And there is an enemy of God who is also a disrupter. There are many disruptions that come because of the enemy. But, the key is “Do not be afraid, keep believing.” I don’t believe this means, ‘if you have any fear you can’t have faith.’ What would faith be without fear? It’s how you respond to that fear. God is gracious. He understands. When we walk through our fears in the faith that His plans are bigger than our fears, we are walking in faith and He meets us right there.

“Do not be afraid. Keep on believing.” This will be the foundation we need to have wisdom to see how to deal in life’s disruptions. That wisdom that is from above helps us so that the disruptions do not begin to control us, but that we can respond in self-control that is from the Spirit of God. And, we don’t have to be consumed with how big the disruptive storm is, we can be consumed with how much greater our God is than the storm. Is your trust in your plans and expectations or is your trust built on the solid foundation of and perfect plans of Christ?

“Do not be afraid. Keep on believing.” Also doesn’t mean we can be lazy. It’s quite on the contrary. It isn’t ‘let’s pray’ and then wait for God. It means ‘let’s pray, see what God is up to, and begin to walk in that direction with whatever little faith we bring to the table.’ It means we must walk. Christ followers aren’t meant to be couch potatoes in their faith.

I am not saying that when we trust in Christ, life gets better. We get all these physical blessings of riches, healings, and perfect families. When we come to Christ, at some point we often get hit with really hard things...maybe even to the point of losing what was once valuable to you. But the question that remains, is Jesus worth it? Is Jesus and what His plans are for you better than those storms that come?

The key phrase is “Don’t be afraid; keep on believing” In all that goes on in life, God accomplishes what He sets out to do, no matter what the disruptions are. And sometimes, I would even say ‘all of those times’, God uses those disruptions in our life to do good things for us and in us, to reveal a truth to us, and/or to prepare us for something greater that can have an effect on all that is around us.

Jesus will accomplish what He set out to do. We can trust that. It may not fit according to our expectations, our agenda, but He accomplishes what He set

out to do. A great marker for us to know if our minds are set more upon the things of this life is this: you will see the disruptions as messing up *your* plans. The opposite would be this: If your mind is set upon the things above as Paul says in Colossians 3:2, you will see disruptions as opportunities to place your trust in Jesus and for your faith to grow because God is about to do greater things in you, for you, and through you to all that is around you.

Maybe your going through some hard time: a break up, lost a job, a sick friend of family member, can't get the help you need, or maybe even dying...God can use all those things and turn them towards good. In those times of disrupted expectations, He may be saving your or someone else from something, and He may be preparing to move you into something greater.

The phrase "Do not be afraid; keep believing" no matter how upside down, frustrated, bleak, or desperate, God is trustworthy and He is working out something. The enemy may even seem like he is winning. Remember Jesus already won. The enemy does not win.

Because of this, it is easier to love the person who has sin or sinned against us. It becomes easier to pray for them and for our attitude towards them. Why? Because God can change them too. God can do something powerful in their life or maybe in spite of their life.

I titled this "Church Disrupt" because there has been a lot of disruption within the church. This isn't something new. There have been many disruptions within the church since the beginning of the Church in Acts. There have been persecutions, political abuses, abuse of power...disruptions that come from outside of the church and disruptions that have been caused within the church. I believe God is using this time of disruption to reveal something to us. What is our focus as individuals in the church and what is the focus of us collectively as the church? Are there things we have made important that are not in God's eyes? Are there things that we haven't made important that are in God's eyes? God is giving us a chance to do a clearing house, a little spring cleaning. The church cannot and should not go on as it was. Let's come to God with whatever faith we have and say, "Here I am". Let's go where God is going.

Can I be honest with you and tell you where one of those places God is taking us is? The message of Christ taken to those who don't believe is no longer to sit upon the shoulders of the leadership of the church. It is the individual who is in the church. As individuals, in our individual daily lives are to share the story of hope. The message of hope should be shared in here. But, where it needs to be shared first is out there.