

LIFE OF A SERVANT**Faith Transforms Fear****Mark 5:21–43***“Don’t be afraid; just believe”* Mark 5:36b**Day 1: Read Mark 5:21–43.**

1. Let’s get a split screen view of both of the persons in this passage. Compare and contrast Jairus and the unnamed woman economically, socially, and religiously.

	Jairus	Unnamed Woman
Economic		
Social		
Religious		

2. It’s all in the details isn’t it? Do you think the fact that Mark records the length of the woman’s illness and the age of Jairus’ daughter is of significance? (vss. 25, 42) Explain.

Day 2: Read Mark 5:21–25.

3. What could lead someone to consider the needs of Jairus first over the problems of the unnamed woman? (vss. 22, 25, also see Leviticus 15:25–27.) When have you been tempted to consider the needs of one person over another, shall we say, less clean person?
4. What did Jairus believe Jesus could do? vs. 23
5. How did Jairus and the leper in Mark 1:40 approach Jesus? (vs. 22) How is this similar or different to the way you ask God for something, how do you approach Him?

Day 3: Read Mark 5:25–34.

6. On the way to Jairus’ house Jesus stops because he senses something has happened to him. What did He sense? (vs.30) What is the cause of the woman’s fear? (vs. 33; Mk. 4:41; Luke 5:8) Is this kind of fear a good thing? (Psalm 25:12, 14)
7. What is the disciples’ reaction, and what might have been going on in their minds? (vs. 31)
8. Why is it so important for Jesus to identify these particular fingerprints on his cloak? (vs. 32; Luke 19:10) What did Jesus say is the actual cause of the woman’s healing? (vs.34)

9. What is the “whole truth” that the woman tells to Jesus and that the crowd overhears? (vss. 26–29) How did she come to believe? (vs. 27, Romans 10:14–15)
10. The unnamed woman is given a new name by Jesus (vs. 34) What is it? Reflect back on Mark 3:35 and sum up what Jesus is saying through this salutation. What larger work of God is this woman a part of? (Ephesians 3:14–15)
11. Jesus doesn’t leave the woman with a simple, “Okay, see you, bye” — but rather “Go in peace,” three small words which carry with them the force of a benediction. Reflect on what Jesus is saying. (vs. 34; I Samuel 1:17–18)

Day 4: Read Mark 5:35–39.

12. There are only a few grains of sand left in the hourglass of Jairus’ daughter’s life, and yet Jesus stops midstream in his journey towards her to tend to someone else. How might the waiting have been beneficial to Jairus? Recall a time when you thought God’s timetable was chronologically challenged, but you see the blessing now.
13. When Jesus says to Jairus in verse 36, “Don’t be afraid; just believe,” what steps of faith is he encouraging Jairus to take, just as Abraham did? Romans 4:18–21.
14. What are the circumstances in your own life, where you need to have God’s word massage your heart and soul with the encouragement, “Don’t be afraid, just believe”?

Day 5: Read Mark 5:40–43.

15. When the news comes that Jairus’ daughter is dead, what are the two responses to Jesus from the unbelieving crowds? (vss. 35, 40) What is the challenge for Jairus, the disciples, and us at points like these? (Luke 9:18–20)
16. When Jesus says that the little girl is not dead but sleeping, he gives his followers a glimpse into the future. What do his words begin to teach us about death and resurrection, and ultimately about his mission? (John 11:25–26; 1Corinthians 15:20–22)
17. Even if we have faith, we will not be healed of all disease and we will all die. Though a large part of this passage emphasizes God’s power over death and his authority over the impossible, what is the other part of the faith picture that hovers over this passage? (Hint: Daniel 3:17–18)
18. This week let’s pray for one another, that we would cling to Jesus in faith. Remember as you pray that Jesus is so compassionate and knows us so intimately that he cares that a formerly dead little girl might have the munchies. (vs. 43)