



Life Incarnate

Mark 5:21-43 | Session 16.26

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Encourage your group to listen to the Faithelement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media).

Context

Begin by leading a conversation using prompts like these:

- How do you respond when faced with a desperate situation that seems beyond human help?
- What are some modern-day examples of people who hold positions of leadership or influence yet are not immune to personal pain and tragedy?
- How do people of means or status often approach God or spirituality differently than those without the same advantages?
- In what ways can privilege or socio-economic status shape our expectations of how God should answer our prayers?
- How might our prayers differ when we are desperate and facing a personal crisis versus when life is going well?

Content

Read [Mark 4:35-41](#) and watch the Bible Background Video before asking questions like these:

- How would you describe the level of faith demonstrated by Jairus versus the bleeding woman and what factors contribute to the differences?
- What is the significance of the number twelve in relation to Jairus' daughter, and how is this mirrored in the woman's condition?
- Which Old Testament laws or customs would have been relevant to the social stigma of the bleeding woman?
- How does Mark emphasize the Gentile versus Jewish context of the previous miracle and this one?
- What is the literal meaning of the Aramaic phrase "Talitha koum," and why is it noteworthy that Mark preserves Jesus' original words?
- In what ways does the woman's physical condition function as a symbol for spiritual and social realities?
- What is the importance of Jesus' insistence that the woman be called "daughter," and how does this relate to his address of Jairus' daughter?

Closure

Lead a conversation using prompts like these:

- What are some areas in people's life where they are suffering in silence or ashamed to seek help?
- In what ways might we be pressing in on Jesus without truly touching him?
- How might our prayers change if we genuinely believed that even a little faith could bring enormous change?
- What would it look like for you to take a risk and "touch the fringe" of Jesus' power in a current situation?
- What are some contemporary issues or problems that can leave people feeling as helpless as Jairus or as marginalized as the bleeding woman?
- What are some ways we can support others who feel they have a "disqualifying" condition that prevents them from getting help?