

OPENING QUESTION

Have you ever longed and prayed to be healed or to see someone else healed? What happened?

READ TOGETHER

Mark 5:21-43

BIG IDEA

Jesus wants us to seek the healing that only He can supply.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Put yourself in the sandals of this man named Jairus (verses 21-24). How do you think you would be feeling over the course of these 4 verses? What emotions would you have experienced?
2. Now put yourself in the sandals of this woman in verses 25-28. How do you think you would be feeling over the course of those verses? What emotions would you have experienced?
3. What do these two people have in common by the time their appearances in Scripture have ended in verse 43?
4. Why did Jesus come to earth? Read Isaiah 53:1-6 together.
5. What do the Scriptures tell us about the connection between Jesus and healing? Look up Isaiah 30:26; Malachi 4:2; Matthew 4:23.
6. If Jesus came to bring us healing, what does that say about what we should do when we know we need healing?
7. If you are in need of physical healing, what does James 5:14-16 say we should do? What are the components of healing in these verses?
8. Finally, do you sense you need healing from anything in your life? In the life of your family? Is someone else around you for whom you carry a burden?

CHALLENGE

This week, watch those around you and see if it becomes obvious from what someone says and does that they are in need of healing. And then choose one of two options. First, in an appropriate way, share with them that you can see they need healing and tell them you are praying that they would experience that. Second, if it seems appropriate, ask if you can pray for them. Come to your small group prepared to share about this next week.

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PRAYER

Take the time to lay hands on anyone in the group who shared about a need for healing and ask God to heal them. Remember, these two stories in Mark 5 teach us that our role as apprentices of Jesus is to simply ask for healing. If anyone has shared of a burden to pray for healing for someone else, take the time to pray for that.

NEXT STEP

For those who are thinking about healing, an excellent read is C.S. Lewis' book **A Grief Observed**. A life-long single man, Lewis married an American woman – Joy Davidman – in his sixties and then lost her to cancer after three years of marriage. In his 160-page book, Lewis grapples with his wife's tragic death. This is his honest reflection on how we as apprentices of Jesus think about crucial issues related to life, death, healing and loss in the midst of faith.