

Sunday Bible Study Lesson
The Gospel According to Mark

Sunday March 24, 2019

Jesus, The Life Giver

Situational Context: Jesus had healed the demoniac by casting the spirits into a herd of pigs. This man became the first gentile missionary, **Mark 5:20 (NIV2011)** ²⁰ **So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed. Jesus had given spiritual life to the man.**

Lesson Theme: Jesus has the authority to give life to those who are spiritually or physically dead. Jesus has the power to resurrect eternally! To the spiritually dead, Jesus can impart eternal spiritual life. At the end of the age, Jesus will command all who are in the grave to come out, some to eternal life, those to whom He has given spiritual life. And to some who never had spiritual life He raises to eternal wrath.

Mark 5:41-43 (NIV2011) ⁴¹ **He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha koum!*” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”).** ⁴² **Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.** ⁴³ **He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.**

1. Jesus Responds: Mark 5:21-24 (NIV2011) ²¹ **When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while He was by the lake.** ²² **Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at His feet.** ²³ **He pleaded earnestly with Him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put Your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.”** ²⁴ **So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around Him.**

Interpretation: Though he was a layman, a ruler’s responsibilities were socially and religiously important, including not only the upkeep of the building but also the proper conduct of the service and the choice of Torah readings.

On His way, Jesus’ journey was interrupted by the woman who had the issue of blood. In addition to her being healed, He took some time to deal with her personally.

Supporting Texts:

Matthew 9:18 (NIV2011) ¹⁸ **While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, “My daughter has just died. But come and put Your hand on her, and she will live.”**

John 11:6 (NIV2011) ⁶ So when He heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed where He was two more days,

Discussion Starters:

Could the ruler have asked Jesus to command her healing by word?

Identify the father's state of mind as Jesus is delayed?

What is common with the raising of Lazarus?

Why wasn't Jesus in a bigger hurry?

2. Jesus' Vision: Mark 5:35-40 (NIV2011) ³⁵ While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the Teacher anymore?" ³⁶ Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." ³⁷ He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." ⁴⁰ But they laughed at Him. After He put them all out, He took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

Interpretation: Jesus built around Himself a hierarchy of closeness. There are numerous disciples from whom twelve are appointed apostles and within the Twelve some (Peter, James, John, and sometimes Andrew) enjoy Jesus' fullest intimacy, most notably at the Transfiguration (Mk 9:2-13) and in Gethsemane (Mk 14:32, Mk 14:33). In the Middle Eastern cultures, wailing is a customary expression of grief, sometimes calling for professional mourners. Jesus is not interested in a grand spectacle of healing. Rather, He is concerned for the suffering of the girl, the faith of her parents, and the ultimate goal of His mission.

Supporting Texts:

Luke 8:50 (NIV2011) ⁵⁰ Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed."

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 (NIV2011) ⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 (NIV2011) ¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

Discussion Starters:

Why did this become a private healing?

Why did Jesus say those words in verse 39?

How is grief of a believer different?

Why is sleep used as a metaphor for death? How is it misused?

3. Life Obeys: Mark 5:41-43 (NIV2011) ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha koum!*” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). ⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Interpretation: Mark is the only Gospel writer who here preserves the original Aramaic—one of the languages of the Holy Land in the first century AD and probably the language Jesus and His disciples ordinarily spoke (they may also have spoken Hebrew and Greek).

In the vicinity of Galilee, Jesus often cautioned people whom He healed not to spread the story of the miracle. His great popularity with the people, coupled with the growing opposition from the religious leaders, could have precipitated a crisis before Jesus’ ministry was completed.

Supporting Texts:

Matthew 11:5 (NIV2011) ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

John 11:43 (NIV2011) ⁴³ When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

Matthew 8:4 (NIV2011) ⁴ Then Jesus said to him, “See that you don’t tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Mark 9:9 (NIV2011) ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

John 17:2 (NIV2011) ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.

**John 5:24-25 (NIV2011) ²⁴ “Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.
²⁵ Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.**

Discussion Starters:

Discuss John 5:26 (NIV2011) ²⁶ For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son also to have life in Himself.

Why did He command them to give her something to eat?

How is Jesus “The Life”?