



Mark: Following Jesus Immediately- Desperation & Deliverance

Introduction: Desperate times call for desperate measures. There are times in our lives where we are desperate for change and will do seemingly anything for it. If your desperation drives you closer to Jesus, how will He meet us in those moments?

Discussion Questions

1. What kinds of things can make us feel desperate? What are we willing to do when we are desperate?
2. Read **Mark 5:21-24** What do we know about Jairus? Is he risking anything by publicly going to Jesus? When Jesus agrees to go with him, what emotions do you think Jairus has?
3. Read **Mark 5:25-34** If you are Jairus, what might you be thinking or feeling here? Why is this woman “trembling” at Jesus’ feet? Why do you think Jesus asks her for the “whole truth?” Is there anything we can learn about Jesus’ reaction to someone who was “unclean” touching him?
4. Read **Mark 5:35-43** What do you make of Jesus telling Jairus not to be afraid but to believe? Both Jairus and this unnamed woman have tension between belief and fear. Does faith mean that you won’t have doubt or fear? How do you take steps even when you have fear or doubt? How does Jesus treat each of their fears?
5. How has the phrase “faith over fear” become trivialized? How can we encourage each other to take steps of faith without minimizing fear?
6. Both of these stories ended in healing. Is healing guaranteed if we believe? How do we proceed if/when things don’t go as we hope?

Shaping Your Mind – Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” Mark 5:36

Moving Forward – *“In addition to believing and doubting, there is choosing. I must decide which road I will follow. I must place my bet.”* – John Ortberg