

# NETCAST ORIGINAL DEVOTIONALS

**Series:** Knowing Jesus

**Date:** March 9, 2026

**Scripture:** [Mark 5: 21-43](#)

**Title:** The Cure for Fear

**Author:** Esther Baird

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**Read:** [Mark 5: 21-43](#)

## **Devotional:**

A number of years ago, when our girls were younger and Les was traveling, I woke up in the middle of the night to alarms blaring. It was a relatively new house, and I had no idea what the alarm meant. Fire? Carbon monoxide? Serial killer? I knew I had to search the house, call the police, and protect our girls (who, I'm not sure, ever even woke up) all by myself.

So I stepped out of my bedroom terrified and armed with a curling iron. Alarms, darkness, and the certainty that this was how I was going to die while waiting for the police.

In the end, it turned out there were ladybugs in our smoke detectors. That's really all I'm going to say about my near-death experience... except that sometimes we have to do very scary things.

Our passage today is like that, only with actual not imagined, life and death issues at stake. It tells the story of two women - - one older, one younger - - whose very lives hung in the balance.

The older woman had suffered from bleeding for twelve years. Her condition made her ceremonially unclean, which meant she lived on the fringes of society. She couldn't worship in the temple, couldn't touch others, couldn't go to the market or participate in normal life. The Bible tells us she had tried everything.

She saw Jesus as her last chance at life. And she was right.

Imagine her fear. She had to push through a crowd, likely touching people and making them unclean, to reach him. But she did. She grabbed his cloak, and instantly everything changed. She was healed. Then she found herself face to face with Jesus.

What did he do? Yell at her for touching him? Shame her?



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## **Devotional cont.**

No. He called her “Daughter.”

Daughter. The unclean outcast became family. Jesus said it was her faith that made her well. From fear to faith. From unclean to clean. From outsider to daughter.

But there was another daughter.

Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, came to Jesus desperate for his dying little girl. Yet while Jesus stopped to speak with the older woman, time that could have been spent rushing to Jairus’s house, the girl died. It was too late.

Except for Jesus.

Jairus came with the same fear as the woman, believing Jesus was his daughter’s last chance at life. And he was right.

Jesus told him, “Do not fear, only believe.” Then he went to the girl, took her by the hand, and said, “Little girl, arise.”

And she did!

Do you know this Jesus? The one who meets fear with faith? The one who takes our fear of sickness, loneliness, failure, and even death itself and offers true life instead?

Faith in Jesus is the ultimate cure for fear because it brings our fears to the only one who has authority over them. Jesus promises that faith in him leads to real life. This is the life he offers when we trust and follow him.



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## Reflection Questions:

- Both Jairus and the bleeding woman came to Jesus in desperation. What fears or situations in your life feel desperate right now? Have you brought them honestly to Jesus?
- The woman risked shame and exposure to reach Jesus. What might faith require you to risk—reputation, control, comfort—in order to trust him?
- Jesus calls the healed woman “Daughter.” How does that word reshape the way you see your identity before God?
- Jesus delays on the way to Jairus’s house, and the situation appears to get worse. How do you respond when God seems slow or silent? What does this passage teach about waiting?
- Jesus says, “Do not fear, only believe.” What would it look like this week to choose belief in one specific area where fear has been loudest?

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