



How Will Jesus Respond to My Desperate Situation?

October 1, 2023 | Mark 5:21-43

Questions for Study and Group Discussion

***Before discussing these questions, read through Mark 5:21-43 as a group.*

1. Have you ever been in a situation that felt desperate? What was going on, and in what ways did you feel helpless?
2. How does being able to depend on someone else (perhaps an expert, or a close friend) impact the reality of a desperate situation?
3. Is it easy / natural for you to depend on someone else – even in the midst of a desperate situation? Why or why not?
4. Look at Mark 5:21-43. Besides Jesus, who are the two main characters in this story? How is each of their situations desperate? List a number of observations, and compare similarities / differences between the two “desperate situations.”
5. How do Jairus and the unnamed woman each show “bold dependence” on Jesus in the midst of their desperate situation? What lessons can you take away from this for your own life?
6. Look closely at the way Jesus responds to the woman after her healing (Mark 5:30-34). What stands out to you about this? What does this teach us about Jesus?
7. Throughout this passage, we see Jesus’s power, His compassion, and His invitation to relationship. In the space below, mention how each of these points is brought out in Mark 5:21-43. Then, share how each of these truths about Jesus invites us to depend on Him.
 - Jesus’s power:
 - Jesus’s compassion:
 - An invitation to relationship:
8. Can you point to ways Jesus has proven faithful and brought you through desperate situations in the past? What did this look like?
9. Are you in the midst of any “desperate situations” right now – situations where you feel helpless and need to depend on God? Explain.
10. What have you learned from this passage in Mark 5:21-43 that can influence how you think about or approach the particular desperate situation you’re in?
11. What specifically might it look like for you to show faith (“bold dependence”) in Jesus, in the midst of this desperate situation?
12. Is there anything else that stands out about this passage, or questions it raises for you?
13. What is your biggest take-away from what you’ve discussed so far? Why?
14. **Challenge — Memorize Psalm 9:9-10:** 9 The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.
10 Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.