

## **People Jesus Met, part 38 – Jairus, part 2 (Head-Deep Unbelief versus Life-Deep Unbelief)**

Galloway: “Sir, I’m a non-combatant.”

Plumley: “Ain’t no such thing today, Sonny!”

When things are calm, it’s easy to decide something in our head.

But when we find ourselves in a desperate situation, we often discover that those decisions are “head-deep” and not “life-deep.”

“When Jesus had crossed again over by boat to the other side of the lake . . .” Mark 5:21a

“When Jesus had crossed again over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while He was still by the lake.” Mark 5:21

“Then a synagogue ruler, named Jairus, came and fell at Jesus’ feet.” Mark 5:22

Synagogue Ruler:

- In charge of all public services
- Chose those who prayed, read Torah and gave the daily sermon
- Presided over ruling elder board

Next to the rabbi himself, the synagogue ruler was the most powerful man in any Jewish community.

“He pleaded earnestly with Jesus, ‘My little girl is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so she will be healed and live.’” Mark 5:23

Mark 5:42 – “. . . she was twelve years old.”

Luke 8:42 – “. . . his only daughter . . .”

“Lon, I think the seizures have finally caught up with us. I’m afraid we’re going to lose her.” Dr. Philip Pearl

“So Jesus went with him.” Mark 5:24

“And (while they were going), some men came from Jairus’ house and said, ‘Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher any more?’” Mark 5:35

“But ignoring what these men said, Jesus told Jairus, ‘Don’t be afraid; just believe.’” Mark 5:36

“When Jesus arrived at Jairus’ house, He saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly.” Mark 5:38

“Jesus said to them, ‘Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep.’” Mark 5:39

“But the people laughed at him.” Mark 5:40a

“So after He put them all out, Jesus took the child’s father (Jairus) and her mother and the disciples who were with Him, and went in where the child was.” Mark 5:40b

“Then Jesus took her by the hand and said, ‘Talitha koum.’ (which means [Aramaic], ‘Little girl, get up.’)” Mark 5:41

*“And immediately, the girl stood up and walked around and everyone was completely astounded.”  
Mark 5:42*

So What?

*“Does anything strike you strange about Jairus’ coming to Jesus like he did?”*

*Jairus was a member-in-good-standing of the religious establishment of Israel.*

*“‘Is this your son?’ the rabbis asked. ‘Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that he can now see?’” John 9:19*

*“‘We know this is our son,’ his parents said, ‘and we know he was born blind. But as for how he can now see, we do not know. Ask him. He is of age and can speak for himself.’” John 9:20, 21*

*“His parents said this because they were afraid. For the Jewish leaders had already decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.” John 9:22*

*“Then the chief priests and Pharisees sent Temple guards to arrest Jesus.” John 7:32*

*“Finally, the Temple guards came back and the chief priests and Pharisees asked them, ‘Why didn’t you bring Jesus in?’” John 7:45*

*“And the guards said, ‘No one ever spoke the way this man does.’” John 7:46*

*“The Pharisees retorted, ‘Has this man deceived you also? Have any of the rulers or Pharisees believed in Him? No! Only this mob who knows nothing of the Law!’” John 7:47*

*“Then Nicodemus, who was one of their number (who had gone to see Jesus earlier) said, ‘Does our Law condemn a man without first hearing him?’” John 7:50, 51*

*“They replied, ‘Are you from Galilee too?’” John 7:52a*

*The Jewish leaders had a clear and well-defined position on Jesus – and it was a position of total unbelief!*

*What’s more, it was a position that Jairus had obviously agreed with up to now – OR ELSE – there is no way he could have ever risen to the role of “synagogue ruler” in Capernaum.*

*Key point = Jairus’ unbelief in Jesus was only “head-deep” and not “life-deep.”*

*As soon as a crisis struck Jairus’ life, he abandoned that unbelief and went running to Jesus for help!*

*Today, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have a lot of people who are just like Jairus!*

*If you have loved ones like my mom and dad, time is on your side!*

*Sooner or later, a crisis will strike their life and, suddenly, that door of unbelief that has been closed and locked will swing wide open.*

**Suggestion #1 – Be their friend and keep the relationship going**

*The only way people will ever allow us to point them toward God in a crisis one day – is if we earn the right in the mean time when things are calm and tranquil.*

**Suggestion #2 – Keep a consistent verbal witness going for Jesus Christ**

*“Waiting for an open door” does not mean “wimping out.”*

*While you’re waiting for that great moment of opportunity, keep Jesus Christ constantly in the spotlight.*

**Suggestion #3 – Be always ready to grab the opportunity when it comes**

*This door of unbelief often swings open at a moment’s notice.*

*When someone is in a crisis, a true friend doesn’t just put their arm on that person’s shoulder and comfort them – a true friend tells them about Jesus Christ!*

*As followers of Jesus Christ, we tend to give up on people too soon.*

*This is a huge mistake – because it ignores the dynamics of what so often happens when “the Titanic strikes people’s lives.”*

*Most people’s unbelief is like Jairus’: it’s “head-deep” and not “life-deep.”*

*Sooner or later, “the Titanic strikes every life.”*

*#1 – Keep the friendship going*

*#2 – Keep a consistent verbal witness going for Jesus Christ*

*#3 – Be ready to grab the opportunity when it comes*