

# 5

## *Jesus Heals*



*What are some home remedies you rely on when you're sick?*

**QUESTION 1**

#BSFLjesus

*Jesus brings healing to our lives.*



## THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

When it comes to pain and illness, many of us fall into one of three categories:

- » Call the doctor—immediately.
- » Try our own home remedies or over-the-counter solutions.
- » Ignore it and hope it goes away.

For my heartburn and stomach pain, I fell into the third group. But after the pain had gone on far too long, I finally went to the doctor. After several rounds of treatments and tests, the doctor announced I had several things wrong: a hiatal hernia, severe acid reflux, and a pre-cancerous condition in my esophagus.

For months, I followed the doctor's instructions, but I finally made another decision: I asked others to pray for me. And they did. A short time later, the doctor told me, "Robby, you've done everything I've asked you to, but I'm still amazed. Your esophagus is just fine." It hit me then. Calling on the Lord should have been the first thing I did!

The Gospel of Mark records the story of a man who needed medical help and he wisely went to Jesus. He went to Jesus first. And we'll see the incredible result of his faith.

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# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

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**Mark 5:22-24 (CSB)**

**<sup>22</sup> One of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and begged him earnestly, “My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your hands on her so that she can get well and live.” <sup>24</sup> So Jesus went with him, and a large crowd was following and pressing against him.**

Jairus was a big deal in his community. Beyond the temple in Jerusalem, the local synagogue was the center of community life. As one of the synagogue leaders, Jairus had responsibilities in leading worship and instruction. These men were the highest-ranking leaders in the town, responsible for the total administration and operation of the most powerful establishment around.

In the Gospel of John, we read another account of a religious official who came to Jesus. Nicodemus, a Pharisee, came to Jesus under the cover of darkness, when people wouldn't see him conversing with such a controversial, untrained rabbi (John 3:1-2). We see a sharp contrast, however, in the way Jairus came to Jesus. With a large crowd watching, Jairus fell at Jesus' feet—and begged for His help.

In the first century, a Middle Eastern man in a high position carried himself with utmost dignity at all times. Such a man never would have fallen to his knees, much less laid prostrate on the ground, but Jairus did both, making himself a public spectacle. Jairus did not care that a large crowd had gathered around Jesus. Neither did he care that Jesus was unpopular with the religious elite. All he knew was this Jesus had the ability to heal people, and Jesus was his last shot. Jairus knew where his hope lay. He understood what was important.

Jairus begged one thing: “My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your hands on her so that she can get well and live” (v. 23). Jairus was facing something he absolutely could not control. His daughter's life was entirely out of His hands, and it was tearing him apart.

***What are some common obstacles that keep us from turning to Jesus with our needs?***

**QUESTION 2**

But just because the situation was out of Jairus's hands does not mean he was without hope. On the contrary, he knew precisely where he could place that hope: in the hands of the Healer. He did not ask Jesus to come and "try" to heal his daughter; his words were full of certainty. He said, "Lay your hands on her *so that she can* get well and live" (v. 23, emphasis added). It was only by Jesus' hands that healing could come—and it would come if Jesus wanted it to.

**Mark 5:35-40** (CSB)

<sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, people came from the synagogue leader's house and said, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher anymore?"<sup>36</sup> When Jesus overheard what was said, he told the synagogue leader, "Don't be afraid. Only believe."<sup>37</sup> He did not let anyone accompany him except Peter, James, and John, James's brother.<sup>38</sup> They came to the leader's house, and he saw a commotion—people weeping and wailing loudly.<sup>39</sup> He went in and said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep."<sup>40</sup> They laughed at him, but he put them all outside. He took the child's father, mother, and those who were with him, and entered the place where the child was.

Jairus's daughter—his *only* child (Luke 8:42)—was not just sick; she was moments away from death. Surely Jairus had exhausted the resources that were available to him. Considering he was a high-ranking official, he likely would have had the best options to choose from. Every doctor in town, every religious ritual, and every home remedy people whispered about had proven ineffective. Going to a mysterious rabbi purported to have healing abilities might have been a last-ditch effort, but he'd heard enough to make him believe.

Then when Jesus willingly went with him, Jairus surely felt some relief. Jesus was on His way, so things were looking up. At last he had found a solution—time was the only element working against them.

*What have you learned in recent years about trusting God?*

## QUESTION 3

***How can we express trust in God even when problems go from bad to worse?***

#### **QUESTION 4**

But then a woman in the crowd with some kind of bleeding disorder sidetracked Jesus (vv. 25-34). I wonder what this must have done to Jairus's frustration level. "Rabbi, can't You please talk to this woman later—after You see my daughter? This woman is not dying, but my daughter may have only minutes to live!" From Jairus's perspective, this would have been a completely logical frame of mind.

If Jairus had such frustration, it surely would have been justified when people came from his house with the dreaded news, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher anymore?" (v. 35). Jairus had found the One who could heal his daughter. Jesus was coming, and they were so close! Now it was all for nothing.

This was not the only time Jesus delayed in a dire situation. Toward the end of His earthly ministry, Jesus' friend, Lazarus, was sick and dying. When Jesus received word that Lazarus was sick, He remained where He was two more days before heading to him (John 11:1-6). In both cases—the death of Lazarus and the death of Jairus's daughter—it seemed that Jesus was too late, but He was right on time. We may see a delay with irreversible consequences, but Jesus does not. We may not understand why He delays at times, but we can trust that He always works to bring glory to God.

When they arrived at Jairus's house, grief and mourning had already filled the place. Everything seemed wrong to those mourning—but everything was right in the eyes of the Son of God. Over the sound of mourners heavy with the despair of loss, Jesus spoke incredulous powerful words of comfort: "The child is not dead but asleep" (v. 39).



**Mark 5:41-43** (CSB)

**<sup>41</sup> Then he took the child by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum” (which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, get up”).**

**<sup>42</sup> Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. (She was twelve years old.) At this they were utterly astounded. <sup>43</sup> Then he gave them strict orders that no one should know about this and told them to give her something to eat.**

Even in the first century, people knew what a dead person looked like. They might not have had the scientific instruments we possess today, but as people looked down at Jairus’s daughter, they knew she was devoid of any life. So when an itinerant Rabbi walked in and said, “The child is not dead but asleep” (Mark 5:39) they may have thought He was making a cruel joke. Of course the child was dead—they’d seen her with their own eyes!

But Jesus knew the miracle He was about to perform. Jesus took the disciples who had accompanied Him—“Peter, James, and John, James’s brother” (v. 37)—and the child’s parents into the room with the dead girl, and He did something that may have seemed quite unremarkable: Jesus merely took the girl by the hand and said, “Little girl, I say to you, get up” (v. 41). No magic words, no incantations, no magical reviving potions. Jesus’ words were all that was needed. And “immediately the girl got up and began to walk” (v. 42).

The only one able to bring a dead body back to life is the One who instills life in the first place. If Jesus is able to give and restore life, He surely can be fully trusted to handle any situation we face.

Our lives are hit with misfortunes and mishaps, and we don’t always know why. Before we jump to conclusions, let’s trust the One who is in control of *every* situation. We may not know why something happened, but we can trust the One who can handle it. Jesus can and will bring healing—in His time and in His way.

***What situation in your life is requiring you to trust in God and wait on His timing?***

**QUESTION 5**

"If Jesus is able to give and restore life, He surely can be fully trusted to handle any situation we face!"

ROBBY GALLATY

## HE IS ABLE



**Consider the following statements. Then, rate yourself on each scale.**

When I'm in need, my initial reaction is to turn to Jesus for help.



**Never**

**Always**

I'm confident that Jesus has the power and authority to heal.



**I'm unsure**

**I'm 100% certain**

I look for opportunities in my daily conversations to share with others what Christ has done in my life.



**Never**

**Always**

## LIVE IT OUT

Jesus is able to meet our needs, no matter how big or small we think they are. How will you respond to this truth?

- » **Pray.** What are you going through that seems beyond hope? Go to Jesus in prayer and give your situation to Him. Trust Him to answer out of His great love and power.
- » **Share.** The next time you're gathered with a group of friends, ask someone to share about a time when Jesus has brought healing in their life. When hope was at a minimum, how was Jesus' power displayed? Be ready to share your own account, as well.
- » **Celebrate.** Identify two or three ways you've experienced Jesus' power in your own life. Then, spend time in personal worship, thanking Him for those things. This doesn't have to be formal or even planned out, just a genuine expression of gratitude.

Medical issues will come. So, how can we walk through difficult situations in a way that demonstrates our faith in Jesus? **We can turn to Him with our problem and trust Him to provide what's needed. He is the One who heals.**



My thoughts