

Questions for Mark 4:35-6:6a¹

Read 4:35 - 5:43.

What are some themes that run through these four stories?

- power of Jesus displayed
- faith

What do we learn about Christ's power?

Let's look at the woman.

What does the text tell us about her? Her condition/state?

What do we learn about faith in Christ from the woman?

(1) the world could not help her, and (2) she was unworthy to touch a holy man, but (3) she was sure that He could still help, cleanse, and heal her. And that was enough.

v. 29-30, reads "power had gone out from Jesus." Did Jesus lose His power in order to heal this woman?

She becomes whole through his weakness — and this may point to the cross and the means by which we are saved. "He was crucified in weakness... [that] by God's power we will live with him..." (2 Corinthians 13:4). The momentary weakening points to the fact that he heals us through substitution. She can only become clean and whole because he will become unclean (cast out by God) and broken.

Let's look at Jarius.

What does the text tell us about him? His life situation? Circumstances?

What do we learn about faith in Christ from Jarius?

1) no one else can help, and 2) I am unworthy, but 3) you can heal and save from anything.

However, he had these elements to a greater degree than she did. His understanding of Jesus and of faith seems much clearer.

What does the interruption of ministry (to Jarius for the woman) teach us?

he priorities of Jesus are not the world's. He loves the people the world despises. Dick Lucas says that one of the most striking things about the "sandwich" is that "Jesus takes the time to comfort and teach an unclean woman with a chronic problem, causing a (male) church leader in urgent need to wait."

¹ Some questions & answers taken from "The Gospel of Mark Study," by Tim Keller, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 2005.

the woman believes (poorly) and lives. Jairus believes (well) and his daughter dies. Yet Jesus tells Jairus that despite all the appearances, he should “just believe.” Jesus is saying, “my loving care is compatible with deadly troubles and delays”.

Is it possible that, after we pin our hopes on Christ, problems in our life might get worse? What does this tell us about faith in Christ? It tells us that our faith must rest on Him, not merely on our agenda for Him, or on Him as we wish Him to be

How might the disciples lives have been changed after witnessing these events? How can our lives change as a result of believing the truth found in this passage?