

## Why Follow Jesus? | Part 2

Lesson 2

Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43

February 18, 2024

### He Responds to Faith

#### INTRODUCTION

Is it prudent to laugh or doubt the words of the Lord? Such behavior indicates distrust and a lack of faith. Sometimes the Lord is merciful after one has laughed, as with Sarah when hearing she would bear a son (Genesis 18:13-15). Contrarily, Zechariah's speech was muted because of his disbelief in the message from God (Luke 1:18-20).

What, then, was the fate of the Jews who laughed and did not trust Jesus when He affirmed Jairus' daughter was not dead? (Matthew 9:23-24) What is the consequence even now of those who choose not to have faith in the words of Jesus?

It was not difficult for Jesus to recognize faith in Jairus or the unnamed woman who touched His garment (Matthew 9:20-22), even as it is not now a struggle for Him to identify the unflinching faith of a Christian.

***Memory Verse: "He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."—Mark 5:34***

Pray, and read the passages listed above. What questions or observations do you have about them?

## **OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?**

1. How does Jairus, the synagogue leader, express the urgency of his appeal to Jesus (Mark 5:22-23)
2. How did Jesus and His disciples respond when Jairus reported that his daughter had “just died”? (Matthew 9:18-19)
3. How did the crowd react when Jesus said, “The girl is not dead but asleep”? (Matthew 9:24)
4. Why did the woman suffering from a bleeding disorder resolve to seek Jesus for relief from her affliction? What happened after she touched the hem of His garment? (Mark 5:26-29)
5. When amidst the crowd, Jesus realized power had left Him. What was His reaction? (Mark 5:30-34)



3. Why does Jesus address the healed woman as “Daughter”? (Mark 5:34)  
(Hosea 1:10; Matthew 6:9; John 1:12-13; Galatians 3:26)
  
4. When Jesus arrived at Jairus’ house (Matthew 9:23), He found a “noisy crowd and people playing pipes” (wind instruments). What was the reason for this clamor?  
(Esther 4:3; Psalm 30:11; Jeremiah 9:20-21, 31:13; Matthew 5:4)

**APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?**

1. How does peoples’ doubt in God’s ability to heal provoke the depth of your faith in Him?

2. When have you witnessed healing that you attributed to your faith through prayer, and how does this inspire you to follow Jesus?

3. When have you seen restoration of health fail, which you attributed to a lack of faith? What might you be able to do to regain or strengthen that faith?