

# The Great Physician

## Welcome

New Members Meeting 3/28, Chili Cookoff, Easter Eggstravaganza

## Introduction

It will take 63 sermons to get through the book of Luke. Today we are on Sermon 21. We are a third of the way through the book! Today we are in Luke 8:40–56. Jesus is the Great Physician. As you're turning there, you're going to see Jesus absolutely transform the lives of an older woman and a younger girl.

### Luke 8:40-56

40 Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. 41 And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored him to come to his house, 42 for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

As Jesus went, the people pressed around him. 43 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. 44 She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. 45 And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" 46 But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." 47 And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. 48 And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

49 While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." 50 But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well." 51 And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. 52 And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping." 53 And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. 54 But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." 55 And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given to her to eat. 56 And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

## Context/Story

- Jesus has had a very long day.
  - Crowds pressing in around him all the time.
  - Tries to take a nap in the boat, but gets woken up because of a dangerous storm
  - Jesus commands creation to obey Him and it does
  - Row to the other side of the lake, and is greeted by a demon possessed man.
    - His welcome party is naked, smelly, and terrifying (Legion)
- Casts out those demons into 2000 pigs who then drown themselves.
- He ministers to the crowd on that side of the lake, then gets back in the boat and comes back to where He started.

- That is where our text starts off this morning.
- Vs 40 “Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him.” So everybody took the day off of work, and got out of school, and they’re all just waiting on the shore. You see it? Here come the disciples, rowing, “Oh, here they are.” And Jesus is coming, and they’re first, second, third, they’re all like the **DMV**. Everybody’s got a number, lined up, waiting for their appointment with Jesus, their lists of needs, “for they were all waiting for him.”
- Vs 41, “And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue.” So he is a known, respected, spiritual leader. In the old testament, a **synagogue was like a church**. This is where the people of God gathered to hear the Word of God and worship God. And Jarius, being one of the leaders, **was kind of like a pastor**.
- “And falling at Jesus’ feet, he implored him to come to his house.” I don’t know about you, but it is a rare day when I see a grown man throw himself down at the feet of someone else. Most grown men do not do this. But this man is **humble, and he’s desperate**, and he’s begging Jesus to leave this crowd, and to come to his home. Why?
- Vs 42 “For he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.” This is his only child. We don’t know if they struggled with **miscarriage or infertility or what happened**. My assumption is they would have liked to have had more children. Larger families were common in that day, but for whatever reason, God graced them with only one child, a girl.
- How many of you men are fathers of daughters? It is such a tremendous honor and gift to be the father of a young woman.
- My daughters are so sweet.
  - Watching them take their first steps, Reading, Singing in the Car, Kyla - Creative, and kind, Eve - Strong willed but generous. My girls have been a gift of God’s grace in my life. They have softened me and caused me to be more affectionate, tender, and considerate. They have caused me frustrations, but I cannot help but love them, and want to see them grow up and marry wonderful, godly men. Every night when we pray, I pray for their future husbands. That God would prepare those men to even now, to love and to lead my girls well.
- Jarius is a pastor, He has a daughter alot like mine. It is his only child, and she is dying. Whatever pictures he had in mind of their future together, they are in jeopardy. No one had probably ever seen Jairus act this way.
- Rather than having it all together, he was falling apart. Rather than being in charge, **his world was spinning out of control and as hard as he tried, there was nothing he could do about it.** His twelve year old was dying. His darling daughter that had brought him and his wife so much joy for twelve years was about to leave this world and there was nothing he could do...except to fall at the Master’s feet in humility and brokenness and cry out to Him to heal his twelve year old little girl.
- So Jesus goes with him.

## Jesus Cleanses

1. Explain
  - a. And as he went, crowds pressed in and someone touched him. A woman.

- b. As long as the little girl, Jairus' daughter, had been alive, this woman had been bleeding. "And though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone." That is the **clinical diagnosis of our author, Luke the physician, the doctor**. This woman is desperate, and she's destitute. She's desperate in that she has tried every form of treatment. She's gone to the doctor. She's undergone alternative therapy.
- i. She has gone to the healing center. She has done everything that medicine would make available to her. She has spent all of her money. She is now absolutely impoverished.
  - ii. This can happen in our own day as well. Many people have spent their life savings, sold their home, emptied their retirement account, Maxed out their credit cards, hosted fundraisers, they have thrown every dime they have at the problem and it doesn't fix it. It's hopeless!
- c. Additionally, Leviticus 15 tells us that having this particular type of ailment would have made her ceremonially **unclean**. This is a ceremonial law given in the old testament to the Jewish nation to protect against disease and illness. She was not allowed to touch anyone because that would make them ritually unclean as well. This means that it is very likely that no one has touched her in 12 years. No one has held her hand, no one has hugged her, she lives alone, she eats all her meals by herself, she either was never married, or she was likely divorced. No husband, no children, no money, no friends, no hope. But then she hears that Jesus has come to town.
- i. She shouldn't be in the crowd, bumping up against people, jostling with others to get close to Jesus. She shouldn't have reached out to touch him. A holy man. It would have made him unclean too. People with her condition had often been beaten for less.
- d. Vs 45 "And Jesus said, 'Who was it that touched me?'" I think this might be a rhetorical question. Do you have kids? Say you walk into the kitchen, and the lid is off the cookie jar, and cookies are all gone, and one child's clean, and the other's covered with fudge and crumbs. You say, "Okay, who got into the cookie jar?" It's not that you don't know. No, you're giving them an opportunity to repent. They say, "I don't know, we have no idea. The cookies disappeared. It was a cookie rapture. They're just gone. We don't know what happened to the cookies." Jesus here is inviting her to come forward and publicly confess what she's done. "Who was it that touched me?"
- e. Vs 47 "She came trembling, and falling down before him." She's scared, probably wondering, "**Will Jesus reject me? Will he publicly shame me? Have I made him unclean? Will this crowd cast me out? I'm not supposed to be here. Will I be brought up on charges for defiling a whole group of people?**"
- f. Vs 48 And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."
- g. Jesus made her clean. This is perfectly in line with what the rest of the scriptures teach as well!

## 2. Prove

- a. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason[c] together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.
- b. 1st John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### 3. Apply

- a. Daughter - this woman does not have a Jairus. She doesn't have a dad to do what Jairus has just done for his little girl. She doesn't have a dad who says, "Sweetheart, wait here, I'm gonna go get Jesus, and I'm gonna beg him to come and heal my daughter that I love, and adore, and cherish. She is on her own.
- b. A friend from college
  - i. Instead of staying, he packed up, dropped out of college and left town. That is going to impact that mother and child for the rest of their lives.
- c. Some of you here are in the same boat. Some of you don't have a dad like that. Some of you don't have a dad at all. Some of you ladies, you don't even know your father, or he doesn't love you, and he doesn't love Jesus
- d. For those of you who are like this woman, fatherless, there is hope. Jesus would say to you, as he says to this woman, "Daughter." He becomes that man who gives you identity, and affection, and security, and protection. He becomes that man you go to in time of need, and he lovingly, affectionately cares for you.
- e. **We are made clean.**
  - i. And so for us, sin is like this woman in that we have this debilitating condition. We live with this condition of sin every day. It makes us unclean in the eyes of a holy and righteous God. It makes us cast out from the worshiping congregation of his people. And it ultimately leads to suffering and death. And that there is no hope. It doesn't matter what we do, who we see, or how much we spend, unless we reach out to Jesus, that debilitating condition of unclean sin that leads to death is ever present, and there's no help or hope for us apart from Jesus. And it means that we are guilty of sin, and we're unclean as well.
  - ii. But the light of the story is that Jesus cleanses us! Like the unclean woman, whoever you are, and whatever you've done, or however dirty, and disgusting, and defiled your life has been, you reach out to Jesus in faith, you don't make him unclean. He makes you clean. And the power of God is unleashed in your life to give you new life. She's a picture of all who are saved by faith, reaching out to Jesus, and receiving new life.

## Jesus Raises

### 1. Explain

- a. Vs 49 - While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more
- b. What kills me in this story is that the man was not there to see his daughter die. See, as a daddy, you want to be there in the last moments, if this should ever

happen, you want to be there kissing your daughter on the forehead, and holding her, and just bawling your eyes out, telling her you love her, and you're thankful for all the years God's given you, and that she was a joy, and a delight, and to say your good-byes. And he wasn't there. Not 'cause he didn't love her, but because he was trying to save her.

- c. Vs 50 - But Jesus, upon hearing this answered him "do not fear, only believe"
  - i. Last week we talked about faith vs fear. The same is true here. DO NOT FEAR, BELIEVE
- d. They get to the house and everyone is mourning. Jesus goes into the room with his closest disciples, and says something profound. "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping."
  - i. We know the end of the story. But they don't. A dead person does not come back to life. It doesn't happen.
- e. Vs 54 - But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given to her to eat.
- f. God can heal any illness. Fix any disease, cure any infirmity. He is bigger than sickness! But is he bigger than death? Yes He is.
  - i. You see, for God, the raising of a dead person is no more difficult than the parent who raises a child from a nap. Why? Because we serve the God who defeated death.

## 2. Prove

- a. 2nd Timothy 1:10 - and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel
- b. Revelation 1:17-18 - When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.
- c. Revelation 20:14 - Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

We can take comfort in this wonderful truth!

## The Good News

Some of you would hear this story and you would identify with the older woman. You would say, "My lot has been many years of painful suffering." My encouragement to you today would be to reach out to Jesus in faith, so that the power of God might be unleashed in your life. And some of you, in fact, can and will be healed in this life by Jesus. It is true physically for some. It is true spiritually for all who trust in him.

Some of you would identify with the parents and you would say, "It is not I who have suffered, but I know and love someone who has, and it's been very difficult to watch them suffer or perhaps even die." And I would say that Jairus is a good example. Run to Jesus, cast yourself

upon him, and invite him into your home, and into your life, and into your family to minister to you, and he will.

And we all, one day, will be in the place of this young girl. We will all die. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, therefore all die. And one day death will come for us all, and you and I will die. But if our faith is in Jesus, our death is not the end of the story, and we will rise like him, forever to be with him. And all those who have gone before us in Christ, we will be reunited with. The story isn't over. Death is not the end. It is just the next chapter of God's great story.

## **Invitation**

### **Pray**



## LUKE 8:40-56 The Great Physician

**INTRODUCTION:** Jesus is the Great Physician. He always heals, but he does not always heal in the way or the time frame that we would like. This passage helps us to see that Jesus has compassion on us even in our greatest struggles. He has authority over sickness and death, and even if he does not heal us of our pains, he is worthy of us casting ourselves at His feet in submission and obedience.

### DISCUSSION

- How does losing a loved one affect you?

### EXPLANATION

- Why does Jarius ask for Jesus' help?
- What is an indication that the woman's healing was more than just physical?
- What does verse 43 indicate about our hope for salvation in anything other than Jesus?

### APPLICATION

- In what ways has Jesus healed you physically and spiritually?
- In what ways are you still waiting on Jesus to heal and restore?
- How can we apply this passage to our waiting for healing?
- What can we do as a community to encourage one another while we wait?

### THE 5 W's (broken up into gendered groups)

- Word (How have you gotten into the word this week?)
- Wife/Husband/Family (How are you doing with your spouse/family?)
- Wellness (What are you doing to take care of yourself?)
- Work (How are you handling the work God has given you?)
- Witness (Who have you witnessed to, or prayed for this week?)