

Introduction:

- *"While he was still speaking to her, messengers arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. They told him, "Your daughter is dead. There's no use troubling the Teacher now." But Jesus overheard them and said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid. Just have faith.""* (Mark 5:35-36, NLT)
- Have you ever noticed that when life requires faith, that is the time fear knocks on your door? Each of us are going to have a day(s), when we feel like our lives have been hijacked by bad news.
 - We go along day after day doing our best. We raise our children, get our exercise, go to work and pay our bills on time. The years go by, and we begin to think that we are in control of our lives, that everything will be okay. We just need to do our best.
 - Then one day everything changes; we get laid off; we get some bad news from the doctor. One moment we feel in control of our lives and in the next we feel like we are trapped inside of a car careening down a hill with no brakes.
 - There have been times when we have said, "I think I have lost control of my life." We know that we were never really in control, we only think we were.
 - We cannot control what happens to us; we can only choose how we will react when the bad (and good) times come. Jesus is telling us in Mark 5:35-36, "When life has bad news, choose faith!"
- If I could teach you how to laugh at the devil today, would you be interested?

I. In The Day of Desperation, Jesus Is The Answer

- A. In the day of desperation. Jesus is the answer! In our passages this morning, both the woman with the issue of blood and the Synagogue leader, are desperate. Both of them are so desperate that they can only see one answer...Jesus. Oh, that the world would get desperate enough to seek Jesus!
1. Woman with the issue of blood. A common person.
 - a) She has an issue of blood for 12 years.
 - b) Suffered a great deal from many doctors.
 - c) Had spent everything she had to find a cure.
 - d) While doing that she had gotten worse.
 - e) She had heard about Jesus.
 - (1) She heard and because she heard faith began to take root.
 - (2) And she thought to herself, *"If I can just but touch His garment. I will be healed."* She went knowing that she could be stoned if she were found out.
 2. Jairus, ruler of the synagogue with a dying daughter. A spiritual ruler, is sometime thought to be exempt from days of despair. It does not matter who you are. Days of desperation come to all of us. It is part of the training course in the life of faith. I need faith when life is hard, and resistance abounds, and fear is knocking on my door. Jairus is desperate. Faith will not grow without resistance. IE. Just like a muscle. To grow it must have resistance.
 - a) He falls at Jesus feet. A sign of desperation.
 - b) He pleads with Jesus fervently. Pleads - Gr. parakaleo - he is crying out for help, for comfort. The word is a verb from of parakleet (Comforter/Holy Spirit)

- c) Jesus is delayed because of someone else's need...and his daughter dies as a result.
- d) *"No use troubling the teacher."* It is over. BUT! It is not over until Jesus says it is over. And Jesus said, *"Don't be afraid. Just have faith."*
- B. All of us will have a day of desperation. It is called life. And in our day of desperation, Jesus says, *"Just have faith."* Life happens...have faith.
 - 1. Death will come to all of us or should I say, death will come to someone close to us before their time. That is when faith is required to keep on trusting!
 - 2. Threats will come to all of us. Threatened with hurricanes (which means threatened with loss...of property, belongings, well being, finances.) Threatened with Covid - threatened with shame of catching it, loss of life, time off work, lost wages. Threatened with relationship failures/loss... divorce, families that do not speak, separation.
 - 3. There will be days of desperation...
 - a) A day when the income and the outflow do not balance out.
 - b) A day when our job is on the line or our performance is being questioned.
 - c) A day when the diagnosis is not what we wanted to hear.
- C. In my day(s) of desperation, Jesus has always been my answer.
 - 1. When I received Christ.
 - 2. When I thought Kelly would lose Caleb.
 - 3. When I thought we would lose our building.
 - 4. When I was in South Africa and hurricane Dorian was bearing down on Brevard County.

II. In The Day of Desperation, Be Clothed With Christ

- A. Jesus response to the woman and to Jairus was FAITH.
 - 1. The woman. Jesus response to the woman accounts for the difference in her outcome. There were many people touching Jesus but her touched stopped everything. What was the difference? Faith!
 - a) She came to the right place...Jesus!
 - b) She came with the right key. Your faith has got the job done. *"And he said to her, Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over."* (Mark 5:34, NLT)
 - c) She received what she was desperate for. Healing. Don't just come desperate to Jesus. Come in faith. Get healed and find peace. The trouble of the time of desperation is over!
 - 2. To Jairus.
 - a) He came to the right place...Jesus!
 - b) He came with the right key. Faith.
 - c) He was tempted to quit when it became impossible! (*there is no use now*) That which he feared the most came upon him.
 - d) Jesus says to him in that moment, *"Do not be afraid, just believe."* When the situation appears impossible hear the words of Jesus, *"Do not be afraid, just believe."*
- B. Our response to days of desperation...be clothed with Christ. Put something on.

1. To be clothed is to be covered. We are to be covered with Christ. This means that we are already covered when the day of desperation shows up! Not getting getting covered because it arrived. We are to receive Christ daily and fully.
 - a) *"Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires."* (Romans 13:14, NLT)
 - b) *"...put on the armor of light."* (Ro 13:12) The darker it gets the more motivated we are to be!
 - c) Clothed with power. *"And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."* (Luke 24:49, ESV)
 - (1) Power to be witnesses
 - (2) Power to produce miracles
 - d) So put on Christ. Clothe yourselves with Christ. Arm yourselves with Christ. Never be without the covering of Christ. Let your friendship with Christ be as close as the shirt you are wearing.
 - e) Bunny Trail - "When?????"
 - (1) In light of the dark days of desperation Jesus presents in Mt 24 and Luke 21, the disciples ask, "When will this be?"
 - (2) In Acts 1:6 they once again ask Jesus, "When will you restore the Kingdom?" Not for you to know...but you will get power when Holy Spirit comes upon you.
 - (3) We want to know the 'when's' of life and Jesus wants us to know the power!
2. Put on the new nature. Col 3:10
 - a) Be clothed with tenderheartedness, kindness, mercy vs. 12. Not anger, bitterness, which can also be fruit of desperate days.
 - b) Be clothed with love vs. 13 it is what binds us all together.
 - c) *"but let your adorning (being clothed) be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."* (1 Peter 3:4, ESV)
- C. Let's learn to laugh at desperate times like a Proverb 31:25 woman.
 1. *"She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future."* (Proverbs 31:25, NLT)
 - a) She is clothed. She has put on something. The Proverbs 31 wife is one who has 'put on' she has clothed herself with the strength of God. And the goodness of God is upon her like an ornament/Jewelry.
 - b) Heb. Strength - "When used of man, this word carries the idea of prevailing as in a war or struggle." Schultz, C. (1999). [1596 מַצָּח](#). R. L. Harris, G. L. Archer Jr., & B. K. Waltke (Eds.), *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (electronic ed., p. 659). Chicago: Moody Press.
 - c) Heb. Dignity - "The noun *hādār* is associated with: the glory of nature as it reflects the goodness of God." Hamilton, V. P. (1999). [477 הוֹדָר](#). R. L. Harris, G. L. Archer Jr., & B. K. Waltke (Eds.), *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (electronic ed., p. 207). Chicago: Moody Press. The Proverbs 31 wife is one who has 'put on' she has clothed herself with the strength of God. And the goodness of God is upon her like an ornament/Jewelry.

- d) When she is clothed with strength and dignity (Christ) she laughs at the future knowing all things are possible for those who believe.

III. In The Day Of Desperation, Remember Covenant

- A. Covenant - "a legal binding agreement" usually between a less and greater power with the greater power making/cutting covenant with the lesser.
1. At first it was based upon the spoken word. Adam, Noah, Abraham
 2. Later it became the written word. Moses and the 10 commands, Davidic and New Covenant.
 3. The New Covenant is established by the written word and the blood of Jesus.
 4. In Gen 15:8 God gives Abraham a promise. Abraham asks, "How will I know that I will possess the land?" God cuts a covenant with Abraham. A legally binding agreement by God's word.
- B. The Word
1. Has Life - Zoe. Vitality!
 - a) *"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."* (John 6:63, ESV) Therefore I speak the Word into my days of desperation, into the darkness of desperation.
 - b) Heb 4:12 The Word is alive and powerful
 2. Has Strength - *"so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."* (Isaiah 55:11, ESV)
 - a) will produce fruit and not return empty
 - b) will accomplish what it was sent to do.
 - c) will succeed in the thing for which it was sent.
 3. Has future.
 - a) The seed produce after its own kind.
 - b) Because I know it is sent, the Word has a mission. It will bring about the life that it carries.
 - (1) Healing word
 - (2) saving word
 - (3) delivering word
 - (4) prospering word
- C. Faith
1. *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."* (Romans 10:17, ESV)
 - a) The Bible tells us what we can believe God for.
 - b) And faith begins where the will of God is known.
 2. Faith to call things that are not as though they were. Ro 4:17

3. Abraham did not waver. *"No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised."* (Romans 4:20-21, ESV)
 - a) unbelief makes us waver
 - b) faith makes us stand!
4. The woman with the issue of blood did not waver, she stood in faith.
5. Jairus started to waiver but Jesus said, "NO! Just believe!"

Conclusion:

- How about you? Do you have an area in your life that you are wavering?
- *"She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future."* (Proverbs 31:25, NLT) Clothed in Christ we laugh without fear of the future! IE. Hand out.
- "The human eye can take as long as 30 minutes or more to adapt to seeing effectively in the dark, but in the process becomes tens of thousands of times more sensitive to light reception in darkness than in daylight. Notably, the American Optometric Association "Dark adaptation is about 80% complete within 30 minutes, but it may take hours, or even days, to acquire total dark adaptation." Sermon Illustrator. **APP.** If you find yourself in the dark days of despair know that your spiritual eyes are becoming more sensitive to the light. God wants you to see! Get in the Word and cloth yourself with light.
- Get to know Christ and the next time the devil lies to you, have a good laugh!



- Invitation to receive Christ.