

Miracle Worker

Part Ten: *life & death*

August 6, 2023

Jesus understood the suffering associated with disease and death. As Isaiah predicted, the Messiah was “*a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief*” (Isaiah 53:3). Jesus was deeply moved when He saw people suffering and in pain. He wept over the devastating impact of sin in a fallen world (John 11:33-38). But Jesus did more than feel sorry for people in misery, the Lord used His supernatural power to help people overcome life and death issues. *We see an example of Jesus doing this at the end of Luke Chapter Eight when...*

Jesus heals a woman and raises a daughter – Luke 8:40-56

1st – Luke shows us a crying crowd. Vs. 40

Jesus was immediately engulfed by a large crowd the moment He arrived in Capernaum. These hurting people were hoping the Miracle Worker would heal them. Among those anxiously waiting for Jesus to return and resume His healing ministry were a rich respected man named Jairus, and a poor rejected woman. The only thing Jairus and the anonymous woman had in common was their desperate need that only Jesus could meet.

2nd – Luke shows us a frightened father. Vs. 41-42a

Jairus was a leading figure in Capernaum’s religious establishment. As the ruler of a synagogue, he was the elder in charge of the public services and the care of the facilities. He saw to it that people were appointed to pray, read the Scriptures, and give the sermon. It took a great deal of humility and courage for Jairus to approach Jesus and ask His help, for by this time the Jewish religious leaders were plotting to kill Him. But Jairus didn’t care what anyone thought of him at that moment. His only daughter was at the point of death (Mark 5:23).

3rd – Luke shows us a weary woman. Vs. 42b-48

After telling us about a frightened father, Dr. Luke tells us about a weary woman that had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. The woman had seen multiple doctors and tried hundreds of home remedies, but she had found no cure (Mark 5:26). The woman’s continual bleeding caused her extreme discomfort and fatigue, but her illness also made her ceremonially unclean (Lev. 15:19-27).

The weary woman was out of money for doctors and cut off from her friends and family. Her situation seemed hopeless, so she forced her way through the crowd and grabbed one of the tassels on the bottom of Jesus’ rope (Matt. 9:21; Deut. 22:12; Num. 15:37-41). Jesus honored the woman’s faith and immediately healed her. The woman’s faith in Jesus made her a child in the kingdom of God (John 1:12)!

4th – Luke shows us a dead daughter. Vs. 51-56

When Jesus finally arrived at Jairus’ house, it was filled with genuine and professional mourners that were weeping and wailing over the death of the child. The whole scene was loud and chaotic (Mark 5:38; Matt. 9:23). Jesus immediately told everyone to stop weeping because the child was not dead; she was just asleep. But the crowd laughed at the Son of God. So, Jesus put the mocking mourners out (Mark 5:40).

Jesus took her hand and called loudly, “Little girl, arise!” And immediately, her spirit returned, and she stood up! The little girl’s parents were astonished, but Jesus told them to not tell anyone what had happened. But Matthew tells us that the news of this miracle swept throughout the country (Matt. 9:26).

Takeaways from Luke 8:40-56...

1. Jesus sees hurting people.

The Son of God sees every person on earth at the same time and knows what is going on inside of our hearts and minds. He knows when we are sad, depressed, lonely, frustrated, unloved, mistreated, and forsaken.

2. Jesus wants to help hurting people.

Jesus not only sees hurting people, but He wants to help hurting people. Regardless of your sex, race, sin, or social status, Jesus wants to make your life better. He wants us to cast our cares upon Him, for He cares for us (1 Peter 5:7).

3. Jesus can help hurting people.

Yes, doctors can give you medicine, surgeons can remove a cancerous tumor from your body, and psychiatrists can help you think properly and deal with your phobias. But only Jesus can give rest to the oppressed and burdened (Matt. 11:28-30), peace to the anxious (John 14:27; 16:33), and salvation to sinners (Luke 4:16-21; 19:10).