## DESPERATE FAITH IN A POWERFUL SAVIOR

pertson
for Jesus.
Savior.

## Luke 8:40-56

<sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. <sup>41</sup> 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, <sup>42</sup> for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

As Jesus went, the people pressed around him. <sup>43</sup> 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, <sup>[f]</sup> she could not be healed by anyone. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. <sup>45</sup> And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter <sup>[g]</sup> said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." <sup>47</sup> 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. <sup>48</sup> And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

<sup>49</sup> 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." <sup>50</sup> But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well." <sup>51</sup> 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. <sup>52</sup> And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping." <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." <sup>55</sup> And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat. <sup>56</sup> And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

## **Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions**

**Open:** Given what you know about God's power, are your expectations of him sometimes disappointed? How do you process that?

Read & Discuss: Luke 8:40-56

- 1. Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, fell before Jesus imploring his help for his dying daughter (40). What might this tell us about Jairus? What does this say about how he viewed Jesus? How might this be unusual for someone in this position at that time? How does personal trauma tend to alter our attitude toward circumstances and God? Can you give an example of such change in your own life? Share it with your group.
- 2. Why, when Jesus entered the house of Jairus, did he allow only a few people to go in with him? (51) What reason might Jesus have had to insist that no one tell others about his restoration of this girl? (56)
- 3. The people at the ruler's house, knowing the girl was already dead, believed there was no point in having Jesus come. (49) They clearly believed Jesus had some limitations. Are there ways you view Jesus as limited in your own life? Explain.
- 4. What do you think Jesus meant in saying of the girl, "she is not dead but sleeping"? (52) What does this miracle tell us about the power and authority of Jesus? What similarities do you see between this event and the account of Jesus and his disciples in the boat? (8:24)
- 5. According to verse 6:17-19, the manner of this woman's healing (44) was not unusual in Jesus ministry. Do you think such instantaneous healing of an "incurable" condition still happens now? Why or why not? What should we expect when we pray for healing?
- 6. Jesus tells the woman that her faith has made her well. (48) Does this mean we must have "enough" faith in order to be healed or could Jesus have meant something else by these words? Explain your answer.

**Apply:** How will you let the facts of this passage encourage you to pray confidently for others who need God's healing touch?

**Pray:** Ask God to give you both faith and wisdom as you minister to those who are sick and suffering.