



‘Now!’ Sermon Series

Sermon #19

‘Handling Divine Interruptions!’

Mark 5:21-43

Sunday, September 8th, 2024

Last week in ‘NOW’ sermon series:

- Last week we looked at quite an interesting passage of scripture, as we studied Mark 5:1-20.
 - *From that text, I preached a sermon entitled ‘Deliverance from Demon Possession!’*
- I asked the question: ***What important things can we learn about the deliverance Jesus provides from this text?***
 - ***Point 1: Jesus Faces the Demonic World. (V. 1-5)***
 - ***Point 2: Jesus Fights the Destructive Wretch. (V. 6-13)***

- ***Point 3: Jesus Frees the Delivered to go Worldwide. (V. 14-20)***

- While the subject matter of last week’s sermon was certainly ‘heavy’, I hope and pray that you’ve allowed the Lord to deal with your heart based on what we discussed concerning Demons and that we must fight them.
 - This morning, we continue our series in Mark by looking at the other side of the sea that Jesus went to and what occurred there.

‘Handling Divine Interruptions!’

Mark 5:21-43

Sermon in a Sentence:

We can follow the example of Jesus in how we handle Divine Interruptions in giving grace to those that oppose us, giving guaranteed hope at every opportunity, and giving genuine care despite the confronting opposition we may face.

Intro:

- In Mark 5:17, the people of the community where the demon possessed man was, had literally ‘begged’ Jesus to leave them.
 - ***So, Mark picks up in verse 21 with Jesus going back to the other side of the Sea.***
- ***This would mean that Jesus was heading back to the Jewish territory on the Sea of Galilee.***

- From what we can tell based on what Mark gives us here, is that Jesus returned back to the city of Capernaum, where He had already done a lot of ministry.
 - ***In Capernaum, Jesus was very well known for His healings and His power.***
- In last week's message, we found that Jesus was Lord over the Demons.
 - ***This morning I believe we will find that Jesus is also Lord over Demons, and Diseases.***
- ***What really grabs my attention about this passage is not necessarily the fact that Jesus heals diseases and a dead person...***
 - ***What this passage shows me about our Lord is that He does not few interruptions as inconveniences, but as opportunities for the Lord's power to be shown and put on display.***
- In our society we are very busy people.
 - Many of us, if we're being honest, would admit that interruptions can slow us down and make us less productive.
 - ***While there is some truth to that, I believe that Jesus gives you and I three ways that we can handle interruptions and see them as God seeking and wanting to work in and through us.***
 - ***The main question is: Are we going to allow Him to do so?***

Read Mark 5:21-43

Question to Ask:

In what ways does Jesus show us HOW to handle Divine interruptions in our lives to help people who are in need of the power of Jesus?

Truth 1: *Give Grace to those who Oppose You. (V. 21-24a)*

- Once Jesus places his foot back in Capernaum shores, the crowd was back and gathered around him.
 - ***It's interesting that at this time, the gentile side of the sea was totally opposed to Him and begged Him to leave.***
 - But on this side of the Sea, there's a crowd that is anxiously anticipating His arrival.
 - ***I believe it's possible that this crowd was waiting for Him to come back.***
 - By this time I am sure word had spread that He had calmed the sea from days earlier, and they wanted to wait for Him to return to see what He would do next.
- In these verses I believe we find something very powerful that Jesus shows us.
 - ***When Jesus was in Capernaum before, the religious leaders of the Jewish synagogue were extremely hostile towards Jesus.***
 - Prior to this, every time in Mark's Gospel that Jesus was in

a synagogue teaching,
controversy followed.

- ***The pharisees and religious leaders were lurking around every corner to hear what Jesus was saying so that they could pounce on Him.***
 - Most of the time we try to avoid those that oppose us and seek to undercut our every move.
 - ***Yet Jesus is given a chance to heal, and He takes it.***
- In these powerful verses, I believe there are **4** things to point out concerning how Jesus gives grace to an individual who undoubtedly was hostile towards Jesus previously.
- ***Jairus's Reputation. (V. 22a)***
 - 'Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name,'
 - ***Mark is sure to let us know that this is not just any Pharisee that cuts through the crowd to get to Jesus.***
 - This is a 'ruler' of the synagogue.
 - ***Previously in Mark 3:6, we see how these same pharisees felt about Jesus:***
 - 'The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.' Mark 3:6

- ***The crowd and the disciples knew that the Pharisees and Jewish religious leaders did not like Jesus. So, I'm sure when the ruler of the synagogue came out and fell before Jesus, that they were shocked.***
- ***So, what is a 'Ruler' of the synagogue that makes it so significant that Jairus came to Jesus?***
 - A Ruler of the Synagogue would have been the president or 'head' of the local Jewish community.
 - ***Scholar James Edwards*** gives insight on the different roles and tasks done in a synagogue: ***'In a synagogue the conducting of public worship, reading of Scriptures, preaching, and public prayer were performed not by a professional class of officials but by lay synagogue members.'***
- While Jairus himself was not a teacher/preacher in the synagogue, he would have taken care of the scrolls, maintained the facility and supervised the school, readers and teachers.
 - ***As a ruler of the synagogue at Capernaum (we assume), he would've known about the teachings of Jesus but also the opposition.***

- What Jairus does here, could've made him eligible to lose his job, and his reputation in the Jewish religious community.
 - But he was willing to risk and lose it all because of the realization he came to.
- **Jairus's Realization. (V. 22b)**
 - 'and seeing him, he fell at his feet'
 - Such a religious man with great pedigree came to Jesus and sincerely asked for help.
 - **And, Jairus did this so humbly, he fell at the feet of Jesus.**
 - **What we need to understand is that Jairus was probably waiting for Jesus to step foot back in Capernaum.**
 - He probably stayed nearby the Sea to wait for the noise and commotion to come from the crowd when Jesus arrived back in Capernaum.
 - But why would a man who led an organization that despised and hated Jesus, all of a sudden come to Jesus for help?
 - **Because He had a strong realization that Jesus was the only one who could save His daughter.**
 - Not religion, rules, or regulations that he had preached and taught for many years. Just Jesus.

- **Dr. Daniel Aiken said 'Jairus came to Jesus because he believed Jesus could do for him what no one else could!'**
 - Jairus was right, Jesus was the only one who could do this.
 - **But Jairus got the point of personal realization.**
 - **The point where all people must get to at some point in their lives in order to be saved.**
 - **The point of realizing you can't save yourself and that you need a Savior.**
 - Have you come to this personal point of realization?
- **Jairus's Request. (V. 23)**
 - 'and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live."
 - **As Jairus makes this request to Jesus his daughter is literally on death's door.**
 - Jairus has no other option, so he makes his request to the only one who can do something.
 - **Dr. Kent Hughes made a strong observation from Jairus's request, 'Jairus was like so many of us in our coming to Christ. It was not his love for Christ that brought him. It was not**

what he could do for Christ. It was his need. It was his desperation and a glimmer of hope. Despair is commonly the prelude to grace.'

- Jairus had to swallow his pride and realize he could do nothing.
- *Have you had that time in your life, or maybe even in your current situation, where you humbly swallowed your pride, and made an honest and sincere request to Jesus?*
- *Jesus Responds. (V. 24a)*
 - 'And he went with him.'
 - *What an example of the Grace that God gives.*
 - Jairus hung out with and was over the crowd that wanted Jesus dead.
 - Yet, Jesus knows this and still decides to go with him.
 - *In the greek text, there is no indication of any delay, it is immediate.*
 - So often we will not give grace to people in our lives who may have wronged us before.
 - Whether it was a week ago or forty years ago, we are so quick to not give grace because of what someone did or didn't do.
 - *Think about this you and I can't read minds, but God can. He knows our thoughts, words and deeds, yet gives grace to us everyday when He wakes us up to live for Him.*

○ *Who are the Jairus's in your life that can be changed and helped by Jesus if you would simply forgive what has happened, and give grace to people even if they have opposed you.*

- So far we've seen that if we want to handle divine interruptions well, we need to give grace to those to oppose us, secondly...

Truth 2: Give Guaranteed Hope at Every Opportunity. (V. 24b-34)

- *If you have Christ in your life then you have the greatest hope in the history of the world.*
 - *So you can and should give that hope to everyone that you come in contact with.*
 - *As Jesus is heading on His way by foot to heal Jairus's daughter, the event we find in these verses occur.*
 - *Now let's put this in perspective for a moment.*
 - If you and I were Jairus, and our child was dying, we would literally not have a moment to spare.
 - No detours could be taken, this child's life is on the line.
 - *Yet Jesus comes in contact with an individual who really needed the guaranteed hope that only Jesus could give.*
 - This individual was cast out by society, she was unclean, and probably childless and not married. She was hopeless.

- *There are hopeless people that God puts in our path everyday with the opportunity for you and I to share the guaranteed hope that we have in Jesus with them.*
 - But, we're too busy to handle these Divine 'interruptions' that come up in our lives.
- *When are we going to get it and understand that we have guaranteed hope in Christ Jesus and we can give that to people, whether it's an interruption or not?*
 - The text doesn't say it, but I'm sure Jairus was telling Jesus 'come on, we got to go! My daughter could be dead at any moment!'
- But, Jesus stops, and gives guaranteed hope...
 - I believe there are **4** things to point out here in these verses...
- *People are Infatuated with Healing. (V. 24b)*
 - 'And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him.'
 - *Yet again, people are all around Jesus, surely making it difficult for He and His disciples to make it quickly to Jairus's dying daughter.*
 - **Word Study**
 - The english word 'thronged' here comes from a greek word **'Sunthlibo'** *συνέθλιβον* *which literally means to*

press together, press upon someone in a crowd, and collide.

- This word only occurs twice in the NT, both here in verse 24 and in verse 31.
 - *This particular word choice by Mark shows me that people were insanely infatuated with what Jesus was doing and what He could do.*
- They thought they were just being healed physically, but like the demon possessed man from last week, Jesus doesn't just heal the physical, but the spiritual as well.
- *People are Intent on being Healed by Jesus. (V. 25-27)*
 - 'And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, 26 and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment.'
 - *This woman was cast out by society due to her discharge of blood. What was this?*
 - While there's much debate on what kind of illness she had, I personally believe that she had a chronic internal bleeding that was being caused by a tumor in her body or some sort of disease.

- *Mark tells us that this has been going on for 12 years, that's a long time especially with not getting better.*
 - *According to Leviticus 15:25-27, because she was bleeding, she was ceremonially unclean.*
 - *So, for 12 years she hasn't been able to go to Church, no one could be around her because she was ceremonially unclean, and she was similar to the lepers of the day because she was left alone by everyone.*
- Mark tells us that she had gone to all the doctors she could and spent all her money (no insurance), trying to improve and get better, but she hadn't gotten any better.
 - *Scholar James Brooks said 'The woman probably could not have lived much longer. Therefore Jesus rescued her from approaching death.'*
- *Verse 27 is important.*
 - *#1: She heard.*
 - She had heard the reports of what Jesus had done.
 - How did a lady cast out from society, hear the reports of what Jesus had done?

- *Because people were talking and sharing the news of Jesus.*
 - So many people were talking about Him, that this lady heard.
 - How much are you talking about Jesus in every circle that you're in?
- *#2: She reached out in faith.*
 - The faith of this woman is shown in the fact that she touched Jesus.
 - *She wasn't depending on His garments to save her, she was trusting in Jesus Himself.*
- *People are Ignited by Faith in Jesus. (V. 28-29)*
 - 'For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." 29 And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease.'
 - *This woman's life can now start when it according to the world and doctors, it should have ended.*
 - *When she touched Jesus, she was healed immediately.*
 - That's what Jesus does. When He heals, He does so instantly and fully.
 - *In the Greek Text:*

- *Mark's usage of the verbs that are translated 'dried up' and 'felt' in the greek text are in the **AORIST** tense.*
 - This is important because it reflects a completed action.
 - In other words, Jesus isn't putting a bandaid on this, but a permanent fix.
- *The english word 'was healed' comes from a greek verb that is in the perfect tense, which indicates the lasting effects of the action.*
 - *Jesus ignited the faith of the woman with His healing.*
- While I'm sure she thought the physical healing was the best blessing that she received that day, in reality it was the spiritual healing that occurred.
 - *The healing has occurred, her faith has been ignited, now Jesus responds to what has happened.*
- *People are Invited to be Loved by Jesus. (V. 30-34)*
 - 'And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?"' **31** And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" **32** And he

looked around to see who had done it. **33** But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. **34** And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

- This miracle that Jesus performs is so incredible because it was performed without conscious action by Jesus.
 - *Jesus immediately knew what had taken place, but He did not initiate the contact with this woman.*
 - This shows even more evidence of His power.
- *I think we need to realize that Jesus senses in Himself that power has gone out from Him (what verse 30 says).*
 - *We must understand that this is not because He was simply touched, but because the one who touched Him had faith.*
- *Then Jesus turns and asks who touched Him?*
 - Obviously, He knows who touched Him, but I think he asks this question so that He can respond and show the people that He is wanting to give her guaranteed hope.
- Jesus responds in an unlikely way...

- *‘Considering the woman’s social stigma, Jesus’ response to her is remarkable. Her being in public and touching him, both of which were violations of the Torah, are not the subject of reprimands from Jesus.’ James Edwards*
- The woman comes and shows great humility. She falls down and tells Jesus what she did.
 - *Of course the disciples make a sarcastic comment in verse 31, but the main thing here is the interaction between this lady and Jesus.*
- *Jesus response should be the response that we have when we deal with interruptions and those that are hurting in our lives:*
 - ‘And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.” Mark 5:34
 - *Notice what Jesus does not say ‘Daughter your touch has made you well’, no, it’s her faith.*
- This is an example to Jairus of what real abandoned faith in Christ actually looks like.
 - But what I see in verse 34, is that while the rest of society casted her out, Jesus invites her in.

■ *If this is what Jesus does, then shouldn’t we do the same with others we come in contact with?*

- *As a Christian, you must give guaranteed hope at any and every opportunity.*

Truth 3: Give Genuine Care despite Confronting Opposition. (V. 35-43)

- Verse 35 picks up with the Jesus still talking to this woman, and they must’ve come close to Jairus’s home, but not yet arrived, when the woman had touched Jesus cloak.
 - *The contrast between verse 34 ‘Daughter your faith has made you well’ to ‘Your daughter is dead’ is done on purpose to show the starkness of this situation.*
 - *Meaning, Jesus knows that all things are possible, while men only look at what they can see.*
 - Jesus gives a great lesson to all of us on how we are to extend care to others even if others doubt the source of the care that we are extending.
 - Jesus does this in several ways....
- **The Despair. (V. 35)**
 - ‘While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler’s house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?”
 - *At this point, those in Jauri’s house see no point in speaking with Jesus anymore, they*

feel that now that she is dead, there is nothing that they can do.

- *They immediately go to the negative thought of despair, instead of the fact that the miracle worker is right in front of them.*
 - You and I do the same thing when we face situations where we think nothing can be done or changed.
 - We have the God of angel armies in our hearts and we literally think there's nothing that can be done, just despair.
- **A Decision. (V. 36)**
 - 'But overhearing[e] what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe."
 - Just like Jairus, we have to make a decision on what we do when Jesus walks in to a situation.
 - *I'm sure that Jairus overheard those from his house say that his daughter was dead, I feel certain (although the scriptures don't say), that he may have broken down in dears, fallen on his knees, or was distraught.*
 - We aren't sure what Jaurus's reaction was, but based on what Jesus said to him 'Do not fear,

only believe.' I'm sure his response wasn't great.

- *Like us, Jairus had quickly forgotten what Jesus had done just moments before with the woman...*
- But he has a decision to make on whether or not he is going to put his faith in Christ Jesus.
- **A Distinction. (V. 37)**
 - 'And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James.'
 - This is the first time that Jesus separates the inner circle (Peter, James and John), from the rest of the group.
 - *So, of course Peter remembers this vividly as he is probably over Mark's shoulder as this is being recorded in Mark's Gospel.*
 - Jesus is using this as a teaching moment in these three disciples lives.
- **Distress. (V. 38-39)**
 - 'They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus[f] saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. **39** And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping."
 - When Jesus had arrived at the house, there were people in clear distress.

- ***We need to understand that there were professional ‘mourners’ that had arrived with the family.***
 - This was a common practice of the time, that if someone was dead, professional mourners would come and sing with and to the family during the distress.
- ***Jesus quickly rebukes them and ask them what they are doing?***
 - ***This statement by Jesus will invite these mourners to question and ridicule Jesus and His tactics.***
- Jesus tells them that the girl is dead because Jesus defines death differently than they do.
 - ***Real death is the separation of the soul from God, not the body from the soul.***
 - ***So her dead body was asleep, and Jesus would bring it back to life.***
- ***The Difference Maker. (V. 40-43)***
 - ‘And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. **41** Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” **42** And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. **43** And he strictly

charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.’

- ***Jesus is the difference maker in any situation because of His Divinity.***
 - ***Jesus takes the distractions out of the situation.***
 - The professional mourners and others, are all sent out of the room by Jesus Himself.
 - ***Jesus removes distractions, so when we are ministering to others, we must be willing to do the same, take out distractions.***
- ***Jesus had done much work this day for the Kingdom, yet it will be met with even more rejection when He goes home to Nazareth in Mark 6...***

Conclusion:

- This morning we’ve clearly seen that Jesus is healer, He is power, and He is life.
 - ***I want to remind you that what you may view as interruptions and inconveniences may be the opportunities that God Himself is wanting to give you so that you can be used by Him and for His Glory.***
- ***I want to reiterate that I believe Jesus has shown three ways that we can handle divine interruptions on our lives.***

- **Truth 1:** *Give Grace to those who Oppose You.*
(V. 21-24a)
- **Truth 2:** *Give Guaranteed Hope at Every Opportunity.* *(V. 24b-34)*
- **Truth 3:** *Give Genuine Care despite Confronting Opposition.* *(V. 35-43)*