

# Sermon Discussion Questions



LOOKOUT  
MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

## “THE COMPASSIONATE AND POWERFUL KING”

**Big Idea:** Jesus’ perfect compassion and power are the greatest hope for all of life’s hardest losses and helplessness.

## Discuss

This passage contains two stories, with one story sandwiched between the beginning and the end of the other. In both Matthew and Luke, the two stories are intertwined in this same way (see Matthew 9:20-22 and Luke 8:43-48). We can assume, therefore, that they are presented as they occurred on one day in Jesus’ earthly life. Interestingly, we are also told that the girl raised from the dead was twelve years old—the exact number of years that the healed woman had been afflicted by her malady.

- 1) In vv. 25 and 26, we learn about the suffering of a woman, suffering that is not just physical.
  - In what other ways has she suffered? (See v. 26)
- 2) Though the passage does not explain this, we know from Leviticus 15 that her bleeding also made her “unclean.” Her body, her clothing, the bed she slept in, and anything she sat on would be considered unclean and would make any person who touched those things also unclean.
  - How would these laws about cleanliness have affected her everyday life, and how do you think she was viewed by others?
  - How might the laws concerning cleanliness have affected her willingness to approach Jesus (and perhaps explain why she came up to him from behind)?
- 3) Discuss Jesus’ response to her (vv. 30-34). He calls her “daughter,” (the only time he addresses any woman that way), but he asks something of her, too.
  - Why do you think he asks her to identify herself, and if he had not, what wrong ideas might she have had?
- 3) Jesus is obviously on his own timeline, with his own ideas about his ministry, as he makes his way to the house of Jairus. What do we learn about the wisdom and ministry of Jesus from these stories? (See vv. 22, 31, 35, and 39-40) Think back to other stories we have studied thus far in Mark: Jesus in the midst of the storm, for example, or Jesus approaching the demon-possessed man.
  - How is Jesus’ way of doing things different from ours?
  - How could we be more like him?
- 5) What might you conclude about Jesus’ attitude towards and beliefs about women from these two stories?

DATE: January 14, 2018

SPEAKER: Brian/Joe

SERIES: Gospel of Mark

PASSAGE: Mark 5:21-43

## Pray

Praise God for his compassion and power.

Confess the times you have doubted the wisdom and timing of God, continuing to press for your own timetable and your own way of doing things.

Give thanks to Jesus for not only modeling for us a life of compassion but also securing for us a place in heaven where all suffering will cease.

Pray that God will continue his work in your heart that you may submit to his rule with joy and gladness. (*adapted from “Confession and Petition,” Valley of Vision, p. 77*)

### PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

East Lake Expression Engine

### PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

Lewis and Elsbeth serving in a sensitive area