Get Through It to Get to It!

Mark 5:21-43 / Leviticus 15:19-30

9/11/22

How many of you have worked with or known people who have done things and they had no concerns about what people thought? They are the type of person that when they decide to do something, they just do it, despite what people may say or think!

Well, this morning we’re going to look at two such people who broke “religious protocol”; and did so for only one reason: They were seeking Jesus and what only He could provide! My challenge for us today is: What are you willing to go through to get to Jesus?

We’re going to focus on the 2 individuals who touched Jesus in different ways yet received the miracle they needed!

**Mark 5:21-43**

v22. *“Then a leader of the local synagogue, whose name was Jairus, arrived. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet,*

* Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue. The folks (the Pharisees. Sadducees & Scribes) in the synagogue did not get along with Jesus. They were always trying to trap him with his words and when that didn’t work, they tried to kill him.
* Yet though Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue, we see he falls at Jesus’ feet & cries out, “Please, you have to heal my daughter!”

Let’s look at Jairus for a moment.

* His primary function was to instruct the people in the law.
  + It was his duty as a ruler of a synagogue.
* He selected the readers or teachers in the synagogue.
  + In Luke 4 there’s an account where Jesus stood up to read in the synagogue. It was a person like Jairus who made sure that Jesus received the book he was looking for.
* He examined the discourse of the public speakers.
  + He had to listen to what they were saying to make sure they were teaching things according to the law.
* He saw to it that all things were done with decency and in accordance with the ancestral heritage.
  + He had to make sure that what was being taught agreed with the oral traditions.

He had a high position in the Jewish religious hierarchy; but knowing that the Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes were against Jesus, he had a choice to make. Here you have this ruler of the synagogue, his daughter is dying, and he knows that the Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes can’t help his daughter. But he has heard about what Jesus has done for others, so he comes to the conclusion that only Jesus can heal his daughter.

I want you to think about what Jairus gave up when he went to Jesus and when he bowed down to him. He would essentially lose his position in the synagogue. Once the leaders of the Jewish religion found out what he had done, he no longer had a synagogue. But this man said I love my daughter and whatever it takes for my daughter to be healed I am going to do it. I am going to “go through” the mocking, the turbulence, and scrutiny & touch Jesus! I don’t care what it costs me because nothing is more important than my daughter.

* Put yourself in that picture. You who have children, you know your child is dying. Are you going to allow your child to die, just to hold on to your pride, prestige, and honor? I would think not! You’re going to run to Jesus, tears flowing everywhere and plead with him – maybe not even in complete sentences – “Jesus. My child! Please! You’ve got heal her. Please Jesus.”

This is a ruler of the synagogue coming and crying out to a man who considered an outcast by those he knows. “

* How many of you, like Jairus, would be willing to give up everything you have to reach out to Jesus?
* How many of us care about how people respond to us when an altar call is made, or an opportunity to talk about Jesus arises?
* How many of us are at that point in our life where it’s Jesus & nothing else matters?

When you choose Jesus 100%, your lifestyle is going to change.

* When make that decision, all of the things that you consider valuable – houses, cars, bank accounts, materialistic things – they don’t hold the same meaning they did before.
* You know what else? People will know it.
* You’re also not going to tolerate some of the things you now tolerate, because when you touch Jesus, your life changes! You don’t live in an area that’s gray. There’s no more is this right, is this wrong. It’s either kingdom related or it’s not!

Now we know from scripture that in situations like these Jesus was often moved or “touched” with compassion. His heart was touched by this man’s faith and because of this Jesus responds, “I’ll go with you.”

As they were traveling on the road to Jairus’ house they happened to pass a woman with an issue of blood. She waited for just the right moment and came up behind Jesus, through the crowd of people and touched his garment. Jesus turns around instantly and says who touched me? His disciples couldn’t believe he would ask such a question because of all the people around. But what caused Him to stop?

* He knew someone one “touched” Him

I have a question for you. Do you think it was a coincident that the woman with the issue of blood came up behind Jesus, touched him and was made whole at the same moment he was walking to Jairus’ house to heal his daughter? Do you know what was happening? The woman with the issue of blood was Jairus’ confirmation that his faith was in the right place. When she was healed immediately just by touching Jesus’ clothes, don’t you think that made an impression on Jairus?

Let look quickly at Leviticus 15:19 for more info on this issue of blood. I want you to see what it means when you have an issue of blood, and it applies to both men and women.

* *KJV - And if a woman have an issue, and her issue in her flesh be blood, she shall be put apart seven days: and whosoever toucheth her shall be unclean until the even*.
* *NLT - Whenever a woman has her menstrual period, she will be ceremonially unclean for seven days. Anyone who touches her during that time will be unclean until evening*

So, we’re talking about an issue from her womb.

(v20) *Anything on which the woman lies or sits during the time of her period will be unclean*

For the sake of time, in verses 20 through 27 we see that anything that touches her bed is unclean. And if a person’s clothes touches something she has sat upon they must be washed immediately. And if her husband is intimate with her, he will be unclean for seven days. Everything she touches while she has the issue of blood is unclean.

Are you seeing the picture? This is a woman who was unclean for 12 years. When you are unclean, you couldn’t go into the temple. When you are unclean. you couldn’t worship God with everyone else. For 12 years she couldn’t serve God the way she wanted to serve Him.

Let’s pick the record up with verse 28.

*28 When the woman’s bleeding stops, she must count off seven days. Then she will be ceremonially clean.*

*29 On the eighth day she must bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons and present them to the priest at the entrance of the Tabernacle.*

*30 The priest will offer one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering. Through this process, the priest will purify her before the Lord for the ceremonial impurity caused by her bleeding.*

Back to Mark 5.

This woman was unclean for 12 years and when you’re unclean this long it changes your life.

* You don’t really have contact with your friends, because the moment you have contact with them, they become unclean.
* It minimizes the contact you have with your husband.
* It minimizes your ability to go out shopping for groceries.
* A person who is unclean had to let people know that they were unclean.
* If you are one of her girlfriends and you’re married, and you touch her or anything she touches, that makes you unclean and now you can’t touch your husband or hug your children.

Look at verse 27. “*She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe*.”

* What had she heard about Jesus? A clue to that is earlier in the chapter when Jesus delivered the man who was possessed by Legion, and he told the man to home and tell people about how good God had been to him. And it says that the man lived in the region of Decapolis, which included 10 cities around Jerusalem. So, he spread the word. Don’t you think that maybe, just maybe that Jairus and this woman heard him talking about this Jesus?

Now look again at verse 28. I want you to hear what she says. “*For she thought to herself, “If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.*”

* The whole time she’s looking for Jesus she’s saying within herself “All I want to do is touch him. Not even his body, just His robe. I know that if I even touch that, I’ll be made whole.” She was saying this to herself over and over and over. This was her motivation.

Now think about this. She knows that there’s a crowd of people around Jesus and when she goes in to get through and reaches for Jesus, she is going to make unclean every person she touches in order to get to Jesus. Now they didn’t know they were becoming unclean, but she did. You see the law was when you made another person unclean on purpose, other than your husband, you were supposed to be stoned. But at that moment, she didn’t care. She wanted the bleeding to stop and was willing to get through to get her healing!

v29-

NLT - *Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition”*

KJV “*And straightway the foundation of her blood was dried up, and she felt (she knew) in her body that she was healed of that plague”*

It’s interesting that original scripture uses the word “plague”. It’s an old word that people used when they believed a person’s affliction was a curse from God. In this woman’s mind she’s probably thinking God has cursed her because she’s had the issue for 12 years.

V30-

*NLT - Jesus realized at once that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my robe?”*

*KJV - And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, who touched my clothes?*

* The word “virtue” is the Greek word dunamis and it means “strength, power, ability. It’s inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue OF ITS NATURE. Jesus had the life and nature of his Father!

v33. - *“Then the frightened woman, trembling at the realization of what had happened to her, came and fell to her knees in front of him and told him what she had done.”*

* Now when she tells him all the truth, she’s admitting that she has made everyone she touched unclean! She admits that. “Jesus, I wanted and needed to touch you so badly because I’ve been bleeding for 12 years, and I couldn’t take it anymore. And I knew you were coming. I knew you were in the area. And I knew that the only thing I needed to do was touch even the hem of your garment and I would be made whole. I had no doubts about that Jesus.”
  + Now notice what Jesus does not do. Jesus doesn’t say “So, you were unclean the whole time you were coming to touch me. And this made everyone you touched unclean. Hey Peter, go get some stones. This woman has to die. The law says she has to die.”
  + You don’t see Jesus saying that. Look what he says in verse 34 – a very critical verse. “*And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.”*
  + “Go in peace. The sentence of stoning that is supposed to be carried out according to the law, is not going to be carried out today. Not only that, but you are made whole from the plague so that you may have believe in me!”

When Jesus tells the woman to go in peace, what he’s really saying is “Daughter, GO INTO PEACE. Go rest. Your body can rest now. Your body is whole now. You no longer have an affliction.”

* There are many of you in this room today who need rest – physically, spiritually, and mentally. The only way you’re going to get that rest and be rejuvenated is to touch Jesus regardless of who or what tries to stop you. You’re going to need to muster up the faith, strength, and commitment to get through it to get it!

As Jesus is talking to the woman the servants of Jairus come to him and tell him that his daughter is dead and there’s no need for Jesus to come now. Jesus overhears them and he looks right at Jairus and says “Don’t be afraid. All you have to do is believe. Remember, you sought me out because you want your daughter healed. Now I will go with you to raise her up!”

Can you imagine what Jairus was thinking? “Never mind Jesus. It’s too late. There’s no need to bother you anymore.” Or maybe he could say “Because you stopped and helped someone else, my daughter is dead! Never mind!”

* I believe that’s exactly why Jesus was so quick in responding before anyone, including Jairus could; To reaffirm to Jairus that he sought Him out for this miracle and that He was going to fulfill it, no matter what it looked or sounded like!

You ever just given up on your miracle because it was taking too long, or it just seemed like there was no way it was going to happen? Maybe the devil has whispered to you that your faith & your hope is in vain and it’s too late to receive what Jesus has for you.

* If so, I believe Jesus is saying to you today as He did Jairus; “You came to me for help. Don’t stop believing now. You’ve come too far to let voices of doubt, despair, and discouragement keep you from your miracle. All you have to do is believe and have faith. You believed when you asked me, now keep believing!”
* Problem is many of us stop when it’s gets hard to believe and we begin to lose faith, never getting THROUGH that doubt or that discouragement. So, we never see the fulfillment of our miracle because we’re not willing to get THROUGH these tough things in order to get it!

When Jesus, Jairus and the three disciples get to Jairus’ home they see the people crying and wailing. Jesus is so awesome! He says simply “The damsel is not dead. She is sleeping.” The people were appalled & couldn’t believe what Jesus said and started laughing and ridiculing him. So, you know what Jesus did? He kicked them all out.

Two things stand out here:

* Notice that the man of the house, Jairus, didn’t kick them out. Jesus did. Think about it. Jairus is grieving more than anyone can ever know as he has just lost his only daughter. Anyone who has lost a loved one knows that in the beginning you are not thinking clearly. So, Jesus took care of Jairus and his wife in removing these distracting people.
* Why else did he kick them out? Because of the unbelief they were speaking into Jairus and his wife as well into the lives of Peter, James, and John. Jesus was training Peter, James, and John for the leadership positions they would have in the future within the church. He wasn’t going to have these nay-sayers filling them up with doubt.
  + It’s best to stay away from those people who are distracting to your faith. You need to learn to get THROUGH them and their disbelieving comments in order to get your miracle! Allow people who speak life in you to hang around and shake the ones that speak doubt, discouragement, and even death to you heart.

So, Jesus speaks to the dead girl and tells us to get up. Now there are some who teach she really wasn’t dead but in a coma. But turn to Luke 8:53-55. It’s dealing with the same record.

* *53 But the crowd laughed at him because they all knew she had died. 54 Then Jesus took her by the hand and said in a loud voice, “My child, get up!” 55 And at that moment her life returned, and she immediately stood up! Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat.*

The girl was dead. And Jesus was saying to the parents “I don’t care what you see or have even heard, you’ve trusted me this far. She will live again.” And she did.

**Closing:**

Mark 5 is a record of two people who decided that no matter what people thought about what they were doing, it didn’t matter and wouldn’t matter! They were going to get to Jesus no matter what they had to go through to get to Him! As Christians, all of us must come to that same place in our lives.

As these two show us:

* Your faith most be based on hearing and believing what God has said in His Word.
* We must know that faith is not passive. It requires us to take action.
* How you act on your faith should not be influenced by what others may think.
* Your faith can and should override what you see in the natural.
* Be aware and know your faith can be weakened by a constant barrage of YOUR negative thoughts, negative words, and negative actions.
* Your faith can be weakened by disbelieving and discouraging people you spend time with and the people you allow to speak negativity into your life.
* Your faith will always result in the fulfillment of God’s Will for your life. ALWAYS.

When you “GET THROUGH” (the hurt, the discouragement, the doubt, the despair, the lies,) with determined faith, it will produce in your life the same way it produced in these 2 people. They were willing to do whatever it took to get to Jesus, because they believed Jesus could do what no one else could! Most people aren’t willing to do that. Truth is, most Christians aren’t willing to do that!

* They are more concerned about how it’ll look if they go to the altar when there is an altar call. Or what it’ll look like to other people when things take longer than we expected and we’re still believing.
* They’re more worried about all of this than they are about “Getting Through” with childlike faith.

Truth is, as long as you let people, opinions, your selfish reasons, or situations dictate your relationship with Christ and keep you from getting to Jesus, you will never receive the blessings, the promises, and the miracles that are waiting specifically for you!

What are you willing to do to touch Jesus?

Are you willing this morning to spend some time at the altar and “Get Through” whatever has been holding you back from getting your blessing, your answer, your miracle? Get Through It this morning in order to Get to whatever “It” is you need from Jesus today.