

EXPECTANT FAITH

THE POINT

Faith maintains trust in God to do what no one else can do.

Luke 8:41-42,49-56 (CSB)

⁴¹ Just then, a man named Jairus came. He was a leader of the synagogue. He fell down at Jesus's feet and pleaded with him to come to his house, ⁴² because he had an only daughter about twelve years old, and she was dying. While he was going, the crowds were nearly crushing him.

⁴⁹ While he was still speaking, someone came from the synagogue leader's house and said, "Your daughter is dead. Don't bother the teacher anymore." ⁵⁰ When Jesus heard it, he answered him, "Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be saved." ⁵¹ After he came to the house, he let no one enter with him except Peter, John, James, and the child's father and mother. ⁵² Everyone was crying and mourning for her. But he said, "Stop crying, because she is not dead but asleep." ⁵³ They laughed at him, because they knew she was dead. ⁵⁴ So he took her by the hand and called out, "Child, get up!" ⁵⁵ Her spirit returned, and she got up at once. Then he gave orders that she be given something to eat. ⁵⁶ Her parents were astounded, but he instructed them to tell no one what had happened.

Luke 8:41-42,49-56 (KJV)

⁴¹ And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house: ⁴² For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him.

⁴⁹ While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master. ⁵⁰ But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole. ⁵¹ And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden. ⁵² And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. ⁵³ And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴ And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. ⁵⁵ And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat. ⁵⁶ And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done.

TEACHING PLAN

GET INTO THE STUDY

OPENING QUESTION: In the world of sports, who can do things that their peers cannot do?

- In many fields, from sports to technology to science, the best in that area have accomplished what no one else could do.
- Many times, people are disappointed when the best of the best fail in some way.
- Only God can do what no one else in can do, and those who follow Him are called to trust Him.

OPTIONAL IDEA: See page 52 for a creative way to introduce the session.

STUDY THE BIBLE

LUKE 8:41-42

Trust Jesus with your needs.

Jesus received a positive greeting as He entered town.

- Explain the context of this Bible story using “The Setting” (p. 127 in *Advanced Bible Study*).
- Point out that people had been waiting for Jesus.
- Ask: Do you think you would have gone out to greet Jesus when He arrived in Galilee? Explain.

A man named Jairus went to Jesus when He arrived in town.

- Use the three paragraphs beginning with “The use of . . .” (p. 128 in *Advanced Bible Study*) to explain Jairus’s position in the synagogue.
- Ask: What actions showed Jairus’s faith in Jesus?
- Say: Jairus was a part of the religious establishment that often opposed Jesus, but it did not keep him from turning to Jesus or receiving Jesus’s compassion.

Jairus faced a problem that he thought Jesus could meet.

- Ask: If you faced what Jairus did, what do you think your response would be?
- Point out Jesus’s willingness to help Jairus, indicated by Jesus’s going with Jairus.
- Use the paragraphs that start with “Verses 41-42 . . .” (pp. 129 and 130 in *Advanced Bible Study*) to explain the incident recorded in verses 43-48.
- Say: In time of need, come to Jesus.

LUKE 8:49-53

Trust Jesus when things go awry.

Jesus’s healing of the woman in verses 43-48 delayed his arrival at Jairus’s house.

- Point out that there is no mention of Jairus’s attitude or actions while waiting for Jesus to speak to the woman who was healed.
- Ask: What might you have been thinking, feeling, or doing if you had been Jairus?

Before Jairus arrived home, he received stunning news of his daughter’s death.

- Jesus spoke to Jairus and encouraged Jairus to trust Him despite the situation.
- Use the paragraph starting with “Fear not/ Don’t be afraid . . .” (pp. 131 and 132 in *Advanced Bible Study*) to explain Jesus’s message.
- Ask: Can you think of a time when you trusted God despite your circumstances? Explain.

Jesus, Jairus, and the disciples continued on to Jairus’s house.

- Say: Jesus allowed a few people to go with Him to see the daughter.
- Use the paragraph beginning “Another group . . .” (pp. 132 and 133 in *Advanced Bible Study*) to explain the custom of mourners.
- Say: Jesus has the power to save and make us whole.

notes

LUKE 8:54-56

Trust Jesus to provide.

Jesus did not allow the mourners to deter Him from ministering to the daughter.

- Ask: Why might Jesus made the mourners leave?
- Ask: When have circumstances affected your trust in Jesus?

Jesus healed Jairus's daughter.

- Refer to the paragraph that begins "Jesus did not . . ." (pp. 134 and 135 in *Advanced Bible Study*) to explain the phrase "get up/arise."
- Ask: Why do you think Jesus took the girl's hand?
- Jesus met the girl's practical needs by telling her parents to get her something to eat.

Jesus told the parents not to tell anyone about their daughter's healing.

- Ask: Why did Jesus give that instruction to the parents?
- Point out the parents' surprise at the healing of their daughter, even though Jairus had pleaded with Jesus to help.
- Ask: Have you ever been surprised that God answered your prayer? Explain.

DIG DEEPER: Review and share the teaching idea on the next page to aid in your discussion.

LIVE IT OUT

How does this biblical narrative challenge your faith?

- This story is a reminder that Jesus is the Master and Lord, even over death.
- We can trust Jesus for victory over all because of His death and resurrection.
- Jesus can provide for your needs even when circumstances may lead you to doubt.

OPTIONAL IDEA

Prior to the session, put each of the following words on separate sheets of paper: sports, military, literature, education, leadership, music, acting, technology, cooking. Place the sheets of paper around the room before the session begins.

As the group arrives, direct them to write down a person who has accomplished what no one else has done in that field. Encourage the group to list local persons if applicable.

Review each areas and the persons the group identified. Discuss what the people did that no one else accomplished. Then ask the following questions:

- Which person was easiest for you to identify?
- Which one was the most difficult to decide?
- Why were those character traits important?

Say: We will discuss a man named Jairus who maintained trust in God to do what no one else could do—heal his daughter. This man remained steadfast in his trust in Jesus, even though his circumstances and the crowd around him could have led him to give up. Jairus had to trust Jesus, because no one else could do what Jesus could do. Open in prayer.



DIG DEEPER

All people face death. Hebrews 9:27 points out, “And just as it is appointed for people to die once—and after this, judgment—” (CSB). Death is the most certain aspect of life. Yet, it often causes worry because it is unknown. There is no one we can talk to who can tell us about it because no one has experienced it and then been able to share their experience. If there is one thing humanity would like to be able to do, but cannot, it is defy death. No one really wants to die.

But Christians should view death differently. It is an unknown and no one wants to endure it, but it is not the end. It is the beginning. Paul wrote to the church at Philippi, “. . . but our citizenship is in heaven . . .” (Philippians 3:20, CSB). That citizenship is actualized upon death. To get to where the believer is going, we walk through death. Interestingly, though, we are

not alone as we experience this difficult time. David knew God was with him and stated, “Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for you are with me” (Psalm 23:4, CSB). There are times when no human can console us, only God. Death is one of those times.

Finally, death should not worry Christians because Jesus defeated death and its power over us. In reference to Jesus, Paul taught, “The last enemy to be abolished is death. For God has put everything under his feet” (1 Corinthians 15:26-27, CSB).