

Waiting For Miracles

Psalm 130:5-6 (NIV)

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

⁶ I wait for the Lord

Mark 5:21-43 (NIV)

²¹ When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. ²² **Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet.** ²³ He pleaded earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.” ²⁴ So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. ²⁵ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶ **She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse.** ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ because she thought, “**If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.**” ²⁹ Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

³⁰ At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

³¹ “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’ ”

³² But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. ³³ Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ³⁴ **He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”**

³⁵ While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?”

³⁶ Overhearing^[a] what they said, Jesus told him, “**Don’t be afraid; just believe.**”

³⁷ **He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James.** ³⁸ When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion,

with people crying and wailing loudly. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep.” ⁴⁰ But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child’s father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha koum!*” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). ⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Waiting For Miracles

1. Go FIND Jesus

Amos 5:4 (NIV)

⁴ This is what the LORD says to Israel: “Seek me and live;

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

¹³ You will seek^(Z) me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.^(C)

2. Realize that MAN can only do so much

Sometimes in our desperation to find the answers for ourselves in human wisdom, we forget to put our trust and hope in God for what we need.

Micah 7:7 (NIV)

⁷ But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me.

That’s one of the reasons why I believe that in situations where there is less technology and advancement, we see a greater degree of miracles

Romans 15:13 (NIV)

May the **God** of **hope** fill you with all joy and peace as you trust **in** him, so that you may overflow with **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.

3. PRESS In

In today's instantaneous society we have definitely lost the art of pressing in to Jesus.

Matthew 7:7-11 (NIV)

⁷“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

⁹“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Luke 18:1-8 (NIV)

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ²He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

⁴“For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

4. Faith is ESSENTIAL

Now let me be clear, I am not talking about faith in the sense that some have wrongfully taught that someone was not healed or an answer to prayer did not come because they lacked faith – because that leaves out the grace of our God and is a narrowminded view of how faith works, seeing it more as a magic potion that must be handled in a certain way for the answer to come about.

However, what we can glean from this particular passage is that, by Jesus own words, faith was instrumental in this woman’s miracle.

So, what is faith and how is it essential as we wait for miracles?

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

¹Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Faith is believing that God exists. It is believing in the goodness of His promises towards us and in the greatness of His power to bring them to fruition in our lives.

Romans 4:18-21 (NIV)

¹⁸Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”^[a]

¹⁹Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. ²⁰Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

5. Fear must be DEALT with

Once again, we see these words spoken... "Don't be afraid!"

Fear is like a cancer, that left unchecked will grow and choke out our hope.

6. Keep your faith circle SMALL

7. Don't get sucked in - to the NEGATIVITY of the World

8. PROTECT The Miracle