

JAIRUS: A Great Dad

Luke 8:41-56

Father's Day normally emphasizes the Father/Son relationship... and rightly so— It is important for fathers to set a good example for their sons to become godly men. I read this week that one optometrist said, "Eighty percent of everything children learn in their first 12 years is through their eyes." I began thinking of all children visually process through reading, television, movies, events, surroundings, and observing the behavior of others, especially in their families. You cannot underestimate to powerful influence of a father upon his children.

In this message I want to emphasize a father's love for his daughter... his only daughter. The father I'm preaching on is Jairus. His story is told in Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:22-43, and our text—**READ Luke 8:41-56**.

Jairus is an **example of a great father**. He did the greatest things a father could do: Worshipped Christ... Prayed for his child... Waited on the Lord... Believed Christ's Word... Received Jesus into his home.

➡ Notice, **three things about this great dad**...

I. **He had a real CONCERN for his child** (vs. 41-42).

- As I speak with parents, it seems one of their greatest concerns is their children or grandchildren. It may be a burden for a wayward child or the spiritual growth of a child or grandchild.
- Jairus' concern for his daughter was demonstrated by his actions.

A. His POSITION.

1. Being a ruler in the synagogue he had many responsibilities— Look after the building, its contents, and make arrangements for worship. He was a very busy man—But not too busy to be a Dad to his only daughter.
2. We had a lot about deadbeat dads and abusive fathers. BUT the greatest abuse committed by a father is to fail to lead his family spiritually.

B. His PRIORITY— His daughter's well-being.

- We need fathers who are more concerned about the well-being and success of their children than their own personal success. What are you doing to ensure your child will be a successful, especially in living for God?

II. He had a reverent **CONFIDENCE** in Christ.

A. Seen in his HIGH RISK.

1. Being a high ranking religious leader in the synagogue, he was one of the most prominent men in the city. He was appointed by the Jewish elders who opposed to Christ's ministry. By coming to Jesus, Jairus put his position on the line and ran the risk of his losing friends.
2. Jairus was confident Jesus would heal his daughter, otherwise he would have never taken the risk he did. **Faith always involves a "risk" of potential loss.**
 - By faith, Jochebed took a risk putting Moses in an ark in the Nile River (Heb. 11:23).
 - By faith, Abraham took a risk in offering Isaac as a sacrifice (Heb. 11:17)
 - When Peter took a step of faith to walk on the water, he was taking a risk.
 - When I quit my job and moved to Washington to start a church in Redmond, without a job, it was a "faith risk."

B. Seen in his HUMBLE REVERENCE.

1. He humbled himself. He ran to Jesus and fell down worshipping at Jesus' feet begging for help (cf. Mt. 9:18).
 - God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble—If you want anything from God, you need to humble yourself before God.
2. **Contrast the faith** of the centurion seeking healing for his servant (Luke 7), and Jairus' seeking healing for his daughter.



- Both the servant and the daughter were dying.
 - Both were loved by the one seeking Jesus help.
 - The centurion had “*great faith*”—“*Speak the word only...*”
Jairus’ faith was not as great as the centurion’s faith.
Jairus’ required Jesus to come to the house. But both got what they needed!
- ➔ Great truth: The *size* of your faith is not as important as *where* you put your faith—All it takes is faith the size of a grain of mustard seed to get results when it is placed in God. Just a “baby step” of faith trusting God to work. And, as Jesus did with Jairus, He will meet you there.

III. He had a resolute **COMMITMENT to the cure.**

- ➔ Several obstacles Jairus had to overcome to get the help he needed for his daughter.
- A. The DIFFICULTY getting to Jesus past the throng of people.
 - B. The DELAY caused by the interruption of sick woman.
 1. While Jesus dealt with this woman’s need — Jairus had to wait. He had to be patient. Most of us do not wait well...especially we men.

➔ How did Jairus feel about this woman interrupting Jesus coming to heal his daughter? Was he frustrated? Perturbed? Angry? “Hey, I was here first! My daughter is almost dead! Wait your turn!”

 2. Jesus was not upset. He would get to Jairus’ house in His own timing. Jesus is never late.
 - This delay would demonstrate Christ’s power in a greater way— He has power over disease (healing the woman) and power over death (raising Jairus’ daughter)!
 - C. The DOUBTS that it was too late. His daughter was now dead.
 1. Things got worse before they got better. When he came to Christ, his daughter was alive, but before he gets home with Christ, his daughter is dead. When your problem takes a turn

for the worse, it may be God testing your faith. Keep believing no matter how bad the situation may become.

What went through Jairus' mind when he got the news his daughter died? What did he feel? **Grief** over the loss of his daughter? **Regret** he didn't come to Jesus sooner? **Anger** over the woman's interruption? **Resentment** that Jesus put the woman's needs ahead of his daughter?

2. "*Trouble not the Master*" (v. 49). There will be those who will try to get you to give up hope that God to answer. Satan will discourage you to think the worse. Don't let anyone tell you, "Your situation is hopeless—You might as well quit asking God for help.
3. Jesus immediately assured Jairus, "*Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole*" (v. 50).
 - Friends will often try to calm a person's despair saying, "Everything is going to be alright." The value of that statement depends on who is saying it. Often it is nothing more than a trite sentiment said to ease our worries. Of course, we know "everything will be OK" in the end, when we love God (Rom. 8:28).
 - **But, when Jesus says,** "Fear not. Everything is going to be OK"—That settles it. Only Jesus can say it with full assurance, because He is in complete control of the outcome!

D. The DERISION of the mourners.

1. They scorned what Jesus said! They thought they knew more than Jesus. Typical of the world who laughs at what God says in His Word, thinking they know better!
 - Ridicule of God and the Bible is usually intended to discourage faith in Christ! Listen, when the God says one thing, and the world says something different, the world is wrong and God is right!

- Jairus bore Christ's reproach and kept on believing what Jesus said in spite of the mourners saying otherwise!
- Jairus could have easily got discouraged by all the obstacles confronting him. But Jairus' faith overcame all these obstacles—Faith is the victory that overcometh the world!

2. **Jesus raised Jairus' daughter** (v. 55).

- They were "*astonished*" (v. 56).
Even though Jairus believed Christ (v. 50), he was **still amazed!** Isn't this often true when God answers our prayers? We pray in faith... we trust God will answer... Then when God answers, we are amazed!



SUMMATION: Dad, are you a father like Jairus? **Does it show...**

- In your **CONCERN** for your children?
- In your **CONFIDENCE** in Christ to meet your child's needs.
- In your **COMMITMENT** to overcome any obstacle that stands in your way to get the best for your children?

I believe if dads will do what Jairus did to get Jesus' help for their sons and daughters, Christ would honor their faith.

Jesus still raises the dead: (1) He raises those who are dead in trespasses of sin (Eph 2). He does it the same way today as He did for Jairus' daughter (v. 54)—By His Word (John 5:24; 6:63, 68; Heb 4:12).