

Bible Lesson

Jesus Raises a Dead Girl to Life

Matthew 9; Mark 5; Luke 8



Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. Just believe and she will be healed."

Luke 8:50

Jesus Raises a Dead Girl to Life

"My only daughter is dying!" Jairus cried. He fell at the feet of Jesus. This father was a Jewish leader.

"Please come," he begged Jesus. "Put your hands on her. If you do, she will live."

Some people came up. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Don't bother Jesus anymore."

But Jesus said to him, "Don't be afraid. Just believe. And she will be healed."

Jesus went to Jairus' home. Since the little girl had died, many people came to the home. They cried loudly. Tears fell down faces. Sad music filled the air.

Jesus said, "Stop crying. The child is not dead. She is asleep."

But they laughed at him. "Of course, she is dead," they said.

Jesus went inside. The 12-year-old girl was on the bed. Jesus took her hand. "Little girl, I say to you, get up." Right away, she got up and walked around!

All were amazed! They told everyone the happy news!

Questions

1. What miracle did Jesus perform?
2. When the father was told that his daughter had died, what did Jesus say to the father?
3. When you come to Jesus with your sadness and fears, what would he say to you?
4. Faith brings miracles. What are you afraid of? How can faith in Jesus help you?

Pray this Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

You can do the impossible. You raised a dead girl to life. You love to heal. Children never bother you. Even death does not stop you. Help me to fall at your feet. Help me to not be afraid. Help me to believe that you can do anything.

Amen

Fill in the blanks. Write the word "afraid" in shaky letters. Write the word "believe" in bright and bold letters.

"Don't be _____ . Just _____ ."

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

Activate Prior Knowledge

- a) Have you ever been to a funeral? What was it like?
- b) According to the title of the story, what did Jesus do?
- c) How common do you think it is for dead people to come back to life?

After you read:

Even the Strong Need Jesus

Jairus was the ruler of the synagogue, which was the most respected job in the community. The synagogue was the Jewish church. Jesus was no longer welcome in most synagogues. But now, in Jairus's hour of greatest need, the synagogue could not help him. He decided to go to Jesus, no matter what. Jairus left behind his pride, his worry about what others might think about him, and he fell at the feet of Jesus. No matter how much money, comfort, or respect Jairus had, his most precious thing in life was about to be stolen from him, his only daughter. Nothing else mattered. Jesus never scolded him; he only helped. Rewrite the story from Jairus's perspective and words. Act it out.

Fall at His Feet

Do you need a miracle? Do you need Jesus? How should you come to him? Find the verbs in this story (cry, fall at his feet, beg, believe, etc.) What action do you need to take in order to move the hand of God? Put pillows on the floor, turn down the lights, get soft music, light candles, and fall at the feet of Jesus. He will not turn you away, no matter how little you have believed.

Sounds of Sorrow, Sounds of Joy

Identify these sounds in the story: despair, begging, pleading, falling, faith, scolding, gentleness, noisy crowds, loud tears, sad music, laughter, sneering, faith, stop crying, softness, firmness, get up, amazement, happiness. Get a collection of musical instruments or create your own. You can make shakers with dry beans in a can, or see many other ideas at:

<https://www.redtedart.com/musical-instrument-crafts-for-kids/>

You might want to let the kids listen to some Jewish music while they work:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5hQ0OkcLKuE>

As you reread the story slowly, let the kids make music to reflect the feelings of the people.

The Problem, the Power, the Plan, and the Praises

Identify a problem in your life. Remember who Jesus is, and in light of that, write down how you can be a part of the solution. Thank him for his answers.

Problem	Power	Plan	Praises
This is my problem...	BUT Jesus has the power to...	SO, I will plan to...	and remember to praise and thank him.
my daughter is dying. (Jairus)	heal and save.	go to him and beg for help.	They were all amazed.
I am failing math.	give me wisdom.	ask for God's help and ask my teacher for extra help.	I did better on my test. Thank you!

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Roadblocks to Miracles

Go through the story and identify the roadblocks below. Cut them out and tape each to the back of a chair or a piece of yarn strung across the room (10 long pieces). On the other side of the room, tape the picture of Jesus healing the girl. Go across the room, saying at each roadblock, "I'm not going to let (pride) stop me. I am going to ask Jesus for help." When you get to the other side, fall at the feet of Jesus and ask him for faith and help.

pride	being uncertain of who Jesus is
fear the I will bother Jesus	panic
lack of belief	sadness
confusion	death
people laughing at me	such a huge request

Turn Sadness Upside Down

Jesus' love wins over sickness, doubt, pride, hate, and even death. Cut out the heart. Lay it over the picture of Jesus with the girl, cut that and glue it inside. Fold the heart. Note that upside down, it is the shape of a tear drop. Write on one side of the heart: "Don't be sad. Don't be afraid." On the other side, write: "Just believe. Luke 8:50."

