

Now Jesus is on His way to help Jairus daughter, when He is interrupted by another character in the story, a **woman** who is both **unclean** (because of her sickness) and **poor**. You can't help but see that Jesus makes **no distinction** between **race, class, or social status**. He will save all those who come to Him with a genuine heart of faith and trust, whether they be a socially prominent rich religious leader, or a socially outcast poor woman, (who in that culture might be near destitute). **"25 And a woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years, 26 and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse, 27 after hearing about Jesus, came up in the crowd behind Him, and touched His cloak. 28 For she thought, 'If I just touch His garments, I shall get well.' 29 And immediately the flow of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction."** See here that when all hope of help from people has been exhausted and vanished, yet there is **hope** in **Jesus**. Now the woman has a similar **posture** to Jairus, except she thinks that somehow even Jesus may **not accept her** like those around her, so she thinks if only I could touch Him from behind. What follows is a beautiful confrontation with the compassionate and merciful Jesus, who not only heals her, but accepts her as His own. **"30 And immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, 'Who touched My garments?'" 31 And His disciples said to Him, 'You see the multitude pressing in on You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" 32 And He looked around to see the woman who had done this. 33 But the woman fearing and trembling, aware of what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him, and told Him the whole truth. 34 And He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.'** Here we ask, now why has Mark included this in the story? Would Jesus heal and accept a second-class citizen like this **poor unclean woman**? Oh yes! Not only that but in the midst of a busy crisis, with a crowd pressing in on Him, He will stop to attend to her need and express His compassion to her. See here the great **heart** of mercy of **Jesus** to those who seek Him, no matter who they may be!

**Mark 5:35-43** - 35 While He was still speaking, they came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?" 36 But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid any longer, only believe." 37 And He allowed no one to follow with Him, except Peter and James and John the brother of James. 38 And they came to the house of the synagogue official; and He beheld a commotion, and people loudly weeping and wailing. 39 And entering in, He said to them, "Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep."

40 And they began laughing at Him. But putting them all out, He took along the child's father and mother and His own companions, and entered the room where the child was. 41 And taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!"). 42 And immediately the girl rose and began to walk; for she was twelve years old. And immediately they were completely astounded. 43 And He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this; and He said that something should be given her to eat.

In Mark's Gospel so far, we have seen **many miracles** by Jesus of staggering proportion. He has authority and power to heal sickness and disease, forgive sins, cast out demons and even command the wind and waves. As if that were not enough to convince of that He truly is the Son of God, Mark includes this very touching part of the ministry of Jesus. **"35 While He was still speaking, they came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?" 36 But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid any longer, only believe." 37 And He allowed no one to follow with Him, except Peter and James and John the brother of James."** Now Jairus has received the devastating news that His daughter has **died**. Yet Jesus holds out hope for Him calling him to trust and moving toward the terrible scene. **"38 And they came to the house of the synagogue official; and He beheld a commotion, and people loudly weeping and wailing. 39 And entering in, He said to them, "Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep." 40 And they began laughing at Him. But putting them all out, He took along the child's father and mother and His own companions, and entered the room where the child was."** After all that had been heard and said of Jesus, it seems odd that the crowd would **laugh at Jesus**. But this is how lost and corrupted that human nature is. People won't believe but remain cynical even after repeated evidence that God both exists and is powerful. Yet here Jesus would take this family privately to see Him do the impossible. **"41 And taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!"). 42 And immediately the girl rose and began to walk; for she was twelve years old. And immediately they were completely astounded. 43 And He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this; and He said that something should be given her to eat."** Now when we consider the question that Mark asked back in chapter 4:41, "Who then is this?" we are also confronted with it, He must be a **man** who is **also God**. For only God could do such miracles, and the evidence is undeniable public knowledge which is impossible to discredit. And so each one of us is confronted with the question which Mark seems to impress upon us by

telling this story, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?" Truly He is the Son of God!

**Mark 6:1-6** - 1 And He went out from there, and He came into His home town; and His disciples followed Him. 2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and the many listeners were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things, and what is this wisdom given to Him, and such miracles as these performed by His hands? 3 "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James, and Joses, and Judas, and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?" And they took offense at Him. 4 And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his home town and among his own relatives and in his own household." 5 And He could do no miracle there except that He laid His hands upon a few sick people and healed them. 6 And He wondered at their unbelief. And He was going around the villages teaching.

In spite of the rejection that had be shown Jesus by His own family, He returns to Nazareth. **"1 And He went out from there, and He came into His home town; and His disciples followed Him. 2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue; and the many listeners were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things, and what is this wisdom given to Him, and such miracles as these performed by His hands? 3 "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James, and Joses, and Judas, and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?" And they took offense at Him."** Sadly even the people of Jesus own hometown reject Him and are unwilling to acknowledge who He is. This of course is in spite of His widespread fame for the amazing miraculous works He had done. Unbelief is blind even in the face of manifest evidence, but yet even Jesus marvels at it. **"4 And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his home town and among his own relatives and in his own household." 5 And He could do no miracle there except that He laid His hands upon a few sick people and healed them. 6 And He wondered at their unbelief. And He was going around the villages teaching."** Jesus continued to teach in the surrounding villages and was obviously very zealous to get the Gospel out.

The next **section** of **6:7-8:26** records work that Jesus did **beyond** the region of **Galilee**. Jesus will continue to do miracles and preach, even as He sends out His own disciples with authority to do the same.

**Mark 6:7-13** - 7 And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs; and He was giving them authority over the unclean spirits; 8 and He

instructed them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a mere staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belt; 9 but to wear sandals; and He added, "Do not put on two tunics." 10 And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. 11 "And any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake off the dust from the soles of your feet for a testimony against them." 12 And they went out and preached that men should repent. 13 And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.

The time has now come to multiply the preaching as He has apparently trained His disciples enough to send them out on their own as **fishers of men**. **"7 And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs; and He was giving them authority over the unclean spirits; 8 and He instructed them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a mere staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belt; 9 but to wear sandals; and He added, "Do not put on two tunics."** Notice that Jesus delegated **His authority** to them. The Apostles received a unique and supernatural power to do **signs and wonders** to **authenticate** their preaching (and writing) as divinely **authoritative**. Men knew they were from God as the obvious power of God rested upon them. See also here that the **worker is worthy** of their **hire** and Jesus expects them to be provided for by those to whom they preach, instructing them to take no food or provisions. He also intends for their message to be received, or there would be accountability for the rejection of their message. **"10 And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. 11 "And any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake off the dust from the soles of your feet for a testimony against them."** Jesus came to save the **"lost sheep of the house of Israel."** After many of them have rejected Him, there will be a reckoning required for the nation by God which was largely fulfilled in 70 AD. This is why the shaking of the dust from their feet was **"a testimony against them."**

**Matthew 10:5-15** - 5 These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them, saying, **"Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; 6 but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.** 7 "And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons; freely you received, freely give. 9 "Do not acquire gold, or silver, or copper for your money belts, 10 or a bag for your journey, or even two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for the worker is worthy of his support. 11 "And into whatever city or village you enter, inquire who is worthy in it; and abide there until you go away. 12 "And as you enter the house, give it your

greeting. 13 "And if the house is worthy, let your greeting of peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your greeting of peace return to you. 14 "And whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, **shake off the dust of your feet. 15 "Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city.** NASB

Jesus disciples were faithful to carry out His instructions and to preach a consistent message with His. **"12 And they went out and preached that men should repent. 13 And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them."** Notice the disciples also preached a Gospel of repentance and faith. As they told people to look to Christ as their Savior they also called men to obedience to God. God testified to the veracity of their message by giving them power of demons and sickness. This is an important section in Mark where we see the divine approval and authority given to the Twelve who will eventually establish the early Christian Church.

**Mark 6:14-29** - 14 And King Herod heard of it, for His name had become well known; and people were saying, "John the Baptist has risen from the dead, and that is why these miraculous powers are at work in Him." 15 But others were saying, "He is Elijah." And others were saying, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." 16 But when Herod heard of it, he kept saying, "John, whom I beheaded, has risen!" 17 For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, because he had married her. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death and could not do so; 20 for Herod was afraid of John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. And when he heard him, he was very perplexed; but he used to enjoy listening to him. 21 And a strategic day came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his lords and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee; 22 and when the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you want and I will give it to you." 23 And he swore to her, "Whatever you ask of me, I will give it to you; up to half of my kingdom." 24 And she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." 25 And immediately she came in haste before the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me right away the head of John the Baptist on a platter." 26 And although the king was very sorry, yet because of his oaths and because of his dinner guests, he was unwilling to refuse her. 27 And immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded him to bring back his head. And he went and had him beheaded in the prison, 28 and

brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. 29 And when his disciples heard about this, they came and took away his body and laid it in a tomb.

Mark now recounts some important information about the **death of John the Baptist** and how it came about. **Jesus fame** had spread far and wide and it eventually came to the ears of those who ruled the region. **“14 And King Herod heard of it, for His name had become well known; and people were saying, “John the Baptist has risen from the dead, and that is why these miraculous powers are at work in Him.” 15 But others were saying, “He is Elijah.” And others were saying, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” 16 But when Herod heard of it, he kept saying, “John, whom I beheaded, has risen!”** Herod was obviously very afraid of Jesus powers as his conscience had been haunted and overwhelmed because he knew he had executed a righteous and holy man. **“17 For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, because he had married her. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.” 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death and could not do so; 20 for Herod was afraid of John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. And when he heard him, he was very perplexed; but he used to enjoy listening to him.”** John had, like Jesus and the Apostles **preached** a message of **repentance** and faith and he was actively calling men to turn from their sins. This of course is what **got John killed**, and it is also what got Jesus and His disciples killed as well. One thing people will not tolerate for long is when you begin to rebuke them for their sins, which they love. It was because of **Herodias’** grudge against John that she **conspired to kill him**, as Mark records, **“21 And a strategic day came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his lords and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee; 22 and when the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you want and I will give it to you.” 23 And he swore to her, “Whatever you ask of me, I will give it to you; up to half of my kingdom.” 24 And she went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask for?” And she said, “The head of John the Baptist.” 25 And immediately she came in haste before the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me right away the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” 26 And although the king was very sorry, yet because of his oaths and because of his dinner guests, he was unwilling to refuse her. 27 And immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded him to bring back his head. And he went and had him beheaded in the prison, 28 and brought his head on a platter, and**

**gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. 29 And when his disciples heard about this, they came and took away his body and laid it in a tomb.”**

Notice in this tragic story the death of the greatest prophet because he loved people enough to tell them that God would judge them for their sins. Moreover, the barbaric nature of people’s lives who live without God in the world. Theirs is a cruel and wicked world ruled by fear, shame, and contempt for others. The give clear evidence why they need to come to God in repentance and look for someone beyond themselves to make them righteous. This is the Gospel that was preached to them, and their rejection of it produced one of the greatest martyrs who was ever slain, John the Baptist. Tragic, senseless, appalling! Yet the Gospel marches on.

**Mark 6:30-32** - 30 And the apostles gathered together with Jesus; and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught. 31 And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest a while." (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.) 32 And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves.

Now the Apostles return with a victorious message of success in their ministry. **“30 And the apostles gathered together with Jesus; and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught.”** See the simple obedience of Jesus disciples is affirmed by Jesus requesting that they go away and rest. **“31 And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest a while." (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.) 32 And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves.”** Apparently, the crowds haven’t slowed as even the Apostles now are inundated so much they didn’t even have time to eat. Jesus then calls them away for a rest, what they get instead is hammered by another persistent crowd.

**Mark 6:33-44** - 33 And the people saw them going, and many recognized them, and they ran there together on foot from all the cities, and got there ahead of them. 34 And when He went ashore, He saw a great multitude, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things. 35 And when it was already quite late, His disciples came up to Him and began saying, "The place is desolate and it is already quite late; 36 send them away so that they may go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." 37 But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat!" And they said to Him, " Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them something to eat?" 38 And He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go look!" And when they found out, they said, "Five and two fish." 39 And He commanded them all to recline by groups on

the green grass. 40 And they reclined in companies of hundreds and of fifties. 41 And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food and broke the loaves and He kept giving them to the disciples to set before them; and He divided up the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied. 43 And they picked up twelve full baskets of the broken pieces, and also of the fish. 44 And there were five thousand men who ate the loaves.

So the crowd runs ahead of them to meet them on the shore. **“33 And the people saw them going, and many recognized them, and they ran there together on foot from all the cities, and got there ahead of them. 34 And when He went ashore, He saw a great multitude, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.”** Jesus was relentless in His desire to teach the people, and even when He was tired and weary He would stay long to give them the Word of God for He knew that they needed that more anything else. This went on until most were exhausted. **“35 And when it was already quite late, His disciples came up to Him and began saying, "The place is desolate and it is already quite late; 36 send them away so that they may go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." 37 But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat!" And they said to Him, " Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them something to eat?"** Now two hundred denarii is about 200 days wages and you can understand how large of a crowd it was to take that much to feed them. Jesus however intends to again show them the power of God, and the desire of God to shepherd the people. Not only did He minister to them out of great compassion, here He will even feed them all. **“38 And He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go look!" And when they found out, they said, "Five and two fish." 39 And He commanded them all to recline by groups on the green grass. 40 And they reclined in companies of hundreds and of fifties. 41 And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food and broke the loaves and He kept giving them to the disciples to set before them; and He divided up the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied. 43 And they picked up twelve full baskets of the broken pieces, and also of the fish. 44 And there were five thousand men who ate the loaves.”** Here is yet another profound miracle by Jesus, who has **power** even to **create** bread and fish out of thin air. As God provided **manna** in the desert, so the Lord provides for the people in this **“desolate place.”** See here the point is not the miracle itself, but the One who worked it and His identity is glaring for all to see. And it seems that yet the disciples are still somewhat confused as to **who Jesus is.**



Yet another encounter with **Jesus** miraculous **power** feeding the 5000 has the disciples wondering. Jesus had **trained them**, sent them out with much **success**, and this was yet another **test** and **lesson** for them. Soon they will be supernaturally feeding God's people with the "**Bread from Heaven**," and looking to God in prayer for the provision. And all the while, the "**twelve full baskets**" leftover apparently shows them that in the midst of their ministry, He will provide for them as well. The way Jesus has **designed** this entire **training period** is truly remarkable.

**Mark 6:45-52** - 45 And immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the multitude away. 46 And after bidding them farewell, He departed to the mountain to pray. 47 And when it was evening, the boat was in the midst of the sea, and He was alone on the land. 48 And seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night, He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them. 49 But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out; 50 for they all saw Him and were frightened. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid." 51 And He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they were greatly astonished, 52 for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their heart was hardened.

One can't help but ask, what will the next lesson in the school of Jesus be? Here they get yet another vision of Jesus identity, but also another lesson in trusting God for guidance and safety. "**45 And immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the multitude away. 46 And after bidding them farewell, He departed to the mountain to pray.**" Notice here Jesus has sent the disciples ahead of Him to the other side. Obviously, He intended to meet them there, but first "**He departed to the mountain to pray.**" Even as Jesus prayed and blessed the food before miraculously creating more, He now devotes Himself again to **prayer alone** as He was obviously a man of devoted prayer and constant communion with the Father. Notice here Mark makes the point, "**47 And when it was evening, the boat was in the midst of the sea, and He was alone on the land.**" This highlights the fact that **Jesus will walk on water** from the shore from where He also "**sees them straining at the oars**" in the middle of the night. Obviously the disciples were way **too far away** to be seen with the **naked eye** in the darkness and storm, yet Jesus could see them and was fully aware of their predicament. "**48 And seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night, He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to**

pass by them.” Apparently, the Lord was simply going to walk across the water to the other side, yet obviously by design is interrupted by their fearful encounter as they see Him. Stop for just a moment to consider verse 49, **“49 But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out;”** and stand in awe of Jesus the Lord! It was a scene that could frighten grown men, **“50 for they all saw Him and were frightened. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid."** It’s not every day that you see someone walk on water, but it will take some **amazing lessons** for Jesus to **prepare** the **disciples** for the situations that lie ahead for them. Even if you know the Lord can create food for 5000 people at will, and is just behind you on the shore, the storms of life which we struggle against it seems at times all night, can strike fear in our hearts. And yet the **Lord** is in the **midst** of the **storm**, with His **watchful eye upon us**, and can with ease walk out in the midst of it and command its waves even as He steps into the midst of our trial with us! Moreover, he has a word for us in our trial, **"Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid."** Oh that we were not so quick to fear but rather quick to look to Jesus for guidance and safety. Notice verse **“51 And He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they were greatly astonished, 52 for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their heart was hardened.”** As if the master conductor had orchestrated the entire scene for this divine lesson in **trust**, He steps into the boat and the storm which He had sent to hinder them, has now finished its purpose and ceases its tossing at His entrance into the boat. How many lessons are in this one scene alone! Let us in our astonishment of Jesus not **harden** our **hearts**, but trust Him in the midst of our trial knowing His watchful eye is upon us!

**Mark 6:53-56** - 53 And when they had crossed over they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored to the shore. 54 And when they had come out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, 55 and ran about that whole country and began to carry about on their pallets those who were sick, to the place they heard He was. 56 And wherever He entered villages, or cities, or countryside, they were laying the sick in the market places, and entreating Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched it were being cured. NASB

Jesus arrival on the shore immediately prompts another crowd. **“53 And when they had crossed over they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored to the shore. 54 And when they had come out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, 55 and ran about that whole country and began to carry about on their pallets those who were sick, to the place they heard He was.”** Jesus continues His miraculous works day after day, with much compassion and