

# When All Else Fails

Case For Christ part, (Study of Mark's Gospel) part 17  
February 20th, 2022, Pastor Bob Johnson, GPC

## Two Desperate ...

(Mark 5:21-28)

## Two Extreme ...

(Mark 5:29-32)

## Two Revealing ...

(Mark 5:33-34)

## Two Unwelcomed ...

(Mark 5:35-40, Psalm 34:18)

## Two Authoritative ...

(Mark 5:41-43)

## Three Insights from Two Miracles:

### 1. Receiving involves R\_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 11:28-29)

### 2. Learning involves R\_\_\_\_\_

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

### 3. Becoming involves R\_\_\_\_\_

(James 4:8)

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## **This Week's Discussion Guide**

Welcome to our sixth week of our 12 week study and discussion based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Case For Christ".

In this series, we are slowly unpacking the Gospel of Mark. Each week we will read and reflect on a passage from Mark's gospel and discuss ways we can apply what we reflect on to our daily lives.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

### **Getting Started:**

Each week, we typically start out with a few fun questions to get us warmed up :).

In Mark 5, Jesus found himself in the middle of a large crowd where he ministered to several people. Speaking of large crowds, what is one or two of the largest crowds you were part of?

Did anything happen while in the crowd that surprised you or made you uncomfortable?

In Mark 5:21-43, we read about Jairus asking Jesus to come to his house to heal his daughter. After Jesus agreed to go with him, he stopped along the way to minister to a woman in need.

Jairus is not the only one that is forced to wait for something or someone! When was there a time you found yourself with an opportunity to practice patience? How did you do?

What are some ways we can practically grow in being more patient?

In both stories we looked at in Mark 5, both the bleeding woman and the concerned dad were willing to risk certain things in approaching Jesus. The woman was risking getting in trouble with the crowd and Jewish officials and Jairus was risking losing his job and his social standing.

What has your walk with Jesus cost you as you have desired to get closer to God and respond more consistently to God's promptings? What might your faith cost you in the future?

Both individuals we read about waited until they had no other options before they sought to get help from Jesus. They are not alone in trying other ways to resolve issues before requesting God's help! Why do we (or other people) go to others first or wait so long at times before asking for God's help? What can help us go to God sooner for the needs in our lives?

When have you, like the woman and man we read about, come to God for a specific need or prayer request? Are you still praying for the need or has it been met?

## **Reviewing and Reflecting on the Passage:**

Let's read the passage from last Sunday. (Mark 5:21-43)

After reading this passage and looking back on your notes from Sunday, was there a particular thought, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you or raised a question for you?

## **Digging Deeper:**

1. This woman and the man in Mark 5, demonstrated faith in Jesus as they both chose to approach Him in their desperate situations. In Scripture, we learn that faith is more than an intellectual belief but trusting God enough to take some action.

What can we learn about how faith works in James 2:14-26?

How does Ephesians 2:8-10 compare with what we read in James 2 regarding faith and works?

If you had to explain to someone the relationship between faith and works in your own words, what would you say?

2. Faith and belief are a big part of the two stories we looked at in Mark 5. Another story in the Bible that shows the importance of faith is found in Daniel 3:16-28. In this story, three of Daniel's friends were faced with the kind of situation that could easily have caused them to doubt God and his plan. They were told to either worship an idol or be thrown into a blazing furnace.

What can we learn or be reminded of about faith from their experience?

What do you think helped these three men not give in when told to renounce their faith in God?

What would you say to someone who wanted to develop the same kind of faith as these three guys?

3. Our faith ultimately rests on an understanding of who Jesus is and what he has done for us. The following passages all contain statements that Jesus made about himself.

For each one, let's identify what he says about himself and ways his description can help deepen our faith in him. (John 6:35, John 8:12, John 10:14-15, John 11:25-26, John 14:6)

## **Wrapping Up:**

What is an application from what we read or discussed together that you would like to practice in the coming days?

Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for? Is there anything else on your heart that you would like to express prayer for?