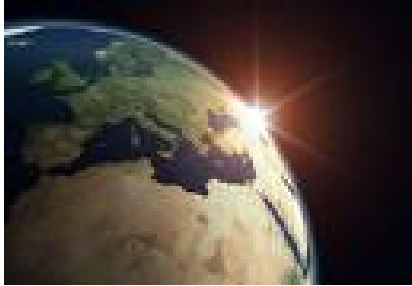


December 13, 2009
Mark 5:21-43

The Good News: A Sermon Series through the Gospel of Mark
The Good News of Restoration
Rev John Sowers

There's Good News for the world . . .



Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

Mark 5:33-34

Will your group take a break over the holidays? Talk about your plans.

READ Mark 5:20-43

Talk about the various people in this story. Who were they? How do they relate to Jesus? What emotions did they experience through the transitions of this story? What did they learn about Jesus through this experience?

- a. Jairus
- b. The sick woman who touched Jesus
- c. The Disciples
- d. The crowd
- e. The mourners in the house of Jairus
- f. Jairus' daughter

You in The Story

What about the two main people in this story, Jairus and the woman, is helpful to you in your relationship with Jesus?

- What difference does it make that Jairus is a religious leader?
- What is significant about the circumstances of the sick woman?
- What did each have stripped away?
- What did each suffer?
- Compare the different ways they approached Jesus.

When have you experienced desperation?

- What was stripped away in this experience?
- What made it difficult to talk to God in your desperation?
- What helped you find the faith to bring your desperate pleas to God?
- In what ways did you receive restoration from Jesus?

Discuss some of these points from the sermon. What difference do they make to you? What's the Good News?

- Jesus listens. Jesus listens without rebuking.
- "Faith is not a warm fuzzy. Faith is the cross." – Flannery O'Conner
- The woman's prayer is silent; too desperate for words.
- Jesus makes himself unclean in order to make us clean.
- Jesus expects his followers to model him. In this case we are shown that we are to allow interruptions to cause us to stop and listen fully. When we listen and allow the faith of another to be expressed we make space for God to bring healing and restoration.

How Did Jesus Do It

What does it mean to listen with the ears of Jesus?

What might it look like to go out of your way to listen to someone this week?

PRAY TOGETHER!