



## STORY 64

# A Sick Woman and a Sad Dad

## MARK 5

### BEFORE THE LESSON

- Read Mark 5.
- *Pray for God's help. Ask for the Spirit's help in understanding the passage and for the Lord to open the children's eyes to see who he is what he has done, and how they should respond to him.*
- *Study the lesson plan below. Use these sections as suggestions. Think of ways to teach it in your own voice.*

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### THE BIG PICTURE

*Help children see how this story connects with the other lessons. Build anticipation by introducing the setting and the significance of what is about to happen in this week's story. {5 minutes}*

Do you remember lesson 58? Probably not. How about the lesson called Mr. Clean, where Jesus cleansed the leper? Maybe you remember that. In that lesson, we learned that in the Old Testament, God gave his people a list of laws telling them what was clean and unclean. Certain animals were unclean. Bats and rats? Yes. Pigs? For sure. Squirrels? Them too. So, if someone ate an unclean animal, they became unclean. (And maybe sick too!) What else could make someone unclean? If someone touched a dead body, he was unclean. If someone was bleeding in a certain way, she was unclean.

**1**  
Read

**2**  
Teach

In today's lesson Jesus does something remarkable. (Actually a few remarkable things.) He meets two people who desperately need his help. One is an unclean woman, and the other is a religious leader. Will Jesus do what they ask? Will they do what he asks? Let's find out!

## TELL THE STORY

Share the story in one of these three ways. {5–10 minutes}



Read the  
Bible passage  
together



Read from  
*The Biggest Story  
Bible Storybook*



Play *The  
Biggest Story*  
video

## TEACH THE STORY

Retell the story with an emphasis on what it says about God and about us. {10 minutes}

**Big Truth**  
Jesus showed  
his power over  
disease and  
death, and one  
day he will  
defeat them for  
all who believe.

Does Jesus save only rich people? No! Religious people? No! Girls but not boys? No! Jesus came to save all people. And today's story (actually two stories woven together) makes that fact very clear. It also makes clear that Jesus has power over any disease and even death.

One day a great crowd surrounded Jesus. Suddenly, a man named Jairus pushed his way through, saw Jesus face-to-face, and bowed before him. That's not unusual. People should bow before King Jesus. The leper did this—others too. But what is unusual is that Jairus was an important religious leader: "One of the rulers of the synagogue" (Mark 5:22). Why would a religious leader bow before Jesus? He did so because he was desperate: "My little daughter is dying. But if you come," he begged Jesus, "and lay your hands on her she will live" (see 5:23). Wow! What faith. He believed that Jesus's touch could save his little girl.

As they journeyed to the man's house, a woman then pushed her way through the crowd and touched the edge of Jesus's robe. Why did she do that? Like the ruler, she was desperate for help and thought if she touched his robe, maybe she would be healed. For twelve years she had been terribly sick. Day after

day, year after year, her body didn't stop bleeding which made her unclean. She went to the doctors. They couldn't help. In fact, she got worse. Her only hope was Jesus. And sure enough, as soon as she touched him, God touched and healed her. Jesus knew his touch had healed her, so he stopped and called her out, saying, "Daughter, your faith has saved you! Your disease is gone. Go in peace" (see 5:34). Two people with great faith. An important religious man and an unclean woman. Jesus healed the woman, but what about the man's daughter?

As Jesus continued his journey, people came from the ruler's house and told him awful news: "Your daughter is dead" (5:35). The end. No, not the end! What Jesus did next was amazing. He encouraged the sad dad ("Do not fear, only believe," 5:36) and then walked into the house, took the girl by the hand, and said, "Little girl, I say to you, arise" (5:41). And guess what? She rose from the dead! She got up, walked around the room, and then had something to eat. Maybe it was a piece of warm raisin bread or a chocolate snowball (a Jewish cookie!). What she ate doesn't matter. What does matter is that she was really alive. Everyone was amazed! Jesus came to save old and young, men and women, religious and unclean—anyone who believed.

## GOSPEL CONNECTION

*Show how the story points to Jesus and his rescue mission as the Snake Crusher.*  
{5 minutes}

Remember how the disciples in the boat feared they would drown and die? The man and woman in today's story both feared too. The woman feared she might never be healed from her bleeding; the man feared that his little girl was about to die. And sure enough, she did die! But both the woman and man had hope. They knew who Jesus was and believed he had the power to heal serious sickness. What they learned, however, was that Jesus has more power than they could imagine. He has power to conquer even death! And because of this, Jesus's command to the man is a command we should hear and obey: "Do not fear, only believe" (Mark 5:36). We don't need to fear death because Jesus has conquered it through his death on the cross, and has given us certain hope that we will rise from the dead someday just as the little girl did—and just as he did two thousand years ago. What wonderful good news! Praise the Father, Son, and Spirit for his gospel.

### 3

## Engage

### DISCUSS THE STORY

Discuss the story in smaller groups. {10 minutes}

1. **QUESTION:** What foods were considered unclean by Jews? What other things made a person unclean? What happened when the unclean, bleeding woman touched Jesus? What are some reasons you might go to Jesus?

**TAKEAWAY:** Jesus's touch makes the unclean clean.

### Memory Verse

Do not fear,  
only believe.

MARK 5:36

2. **QUESTION:** Who were some of the characters in our story? How were they different? How were they the same?

**TAKEAWAY:** Jesus came to save all people.

3. **QUESTION:** What did the woman hope Jesus could do for her? What did the man hope Jesus could do for his daughter? What did Jesus show he has power to do?

**TAKEAWAY:** Jesus has power to heal and raise the dead.

4. **QUESTION:** What was the man afraid might happen to his daughter? Did that happen? What surprising thing happened after she died? If Jesus can raise us from the dead, do we need to fear death?

**TAKEAWAY:** Because Jesus conquered death, we don't need to fear it.

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### ACTIVITIES

Download coloring pages and activity pages from [TheBiggestStory.com](http://TheBiggestStory.com), or choose from the following activity suggestions. {10–15 minutes}

K–2nd

#### Option 1: Touch and Find Relay

*Supply List: boxes, newspaper/paper, adhesive bandages*

*Before Class: Gather supplies. Fill boxes with crumpled paper and adhesive bandages (one box per team; at least one bandage per child).*

Divide children into teams and set boxes on the far end of the room. On "Go!" the first person on each team runs to his team's box, reaches inside, finds a ban-

dage without looking, sticks it to himself, and runs back to tag the next person. Remaining team members repeat the process. The first team to race all members wins. Remind children that Jesus is able to heal people's bodies and hearts.

### **Option 2: Touch and Guess**

*Supply List: none*

Choose five children to be “It” and have them stand in front of the room. Have remaining children sit at tables, close their eyes, put their heads down on the table, and put one thumb up. Have each of the five “Its” quietly press down the thumb of one person and then return to the front. The leader then calls, “If someone touched you, stand up.” Have the children who stand take turns guessing who touched them (one guess per child). If a child guesses correctly, she becomes “It” for the next round and the person who chose her sits down. If she guesses incorrectly, the person who chose her remains “It.” Remind children that Jesus knew who touched him because Jesus knows everything!

3rd–5th

### **Option 1: Four Touch Ball**

*Supply List: ball*

*Before Class: Gather supplies.*

Divide children into two teams and have them form two lines facing each other. Assign each child a number so that each team has a player with each number. Place a ball halfway between the teams. The leader calls out two numbers. The children assigned those numbers race to the ball and try to grab it first. As soon as someone has the ball, all children can move around the room. The person with the ball must toss it to a teammate before getting tagged by someone from the opposing team. To score a point, the team must complete four total tosses without being tagged. If the person holding the ball is tagged or the ball is dropped, no points are scored and a new round begins. The first team to three points wins.

### **Option 2: Touch and Guess**

*Supply List: none*

Choose five children to be “It” and have them stand in front of the room. Have remaining children sit at tables, close their eyes, put their heads down on the

table, and put one thumb up. Have each of the five “Its” quietly press down the thumb of one person and then return to the front. The leader then calls, “If someone touched you, stand up.” Have the children who stand take turns guessing who touched them (one guess per child). If a child guesses correctly, she becomes “It” for the next round and the person who chose her sits down. If she guesses incorrectly, the person who chose her remains “It.” Remind children that Jesus knew who touched him because Jesus knows everything!

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## CRAFTS

*Choose from the following craft suggestions depending on time, age ranges, and group size. {10–15 minutes}*

K–2nd

### Option 1: Great Physician Kit

*Supply List: cardstock, hole punch, pipe cleaners, cotton balls, cotton swabs, adhesive bandages, tongue depressors, glue*

*Before Class: Gather supplies. On the bottom half of a piece of cardstock, print a picture of a red cross symbol and the words “Great Physician Kit” (one per child). Make a sample craft.*

Give each child a “Great Physician Kit” paper and two pipe cleaners. Place remaining supplies on tables. Have children fold the paper in half so the words and symbol are in front, then punch two holes centered on the folded edge. Have children insert pipe cleaners through the holes and shape to make handles. Set remaining supplies on tables. Have children glue the various items to the inside of their “medical kit.” Remind children that Jesus is the Great Physician.

### Option 2: Wake Up Puppet

*Supply List: lunch-sized paper bag, googly eyes, crayons, scissors, glue, construction paper, yarn*

*Before Class: Gather supplies. Make a sample craft.*

Give each child a paper bag and two googly eyes. Set remaining supplies on tables. Have children lift the bag’s flap and glue the googly eyes underneath. Have children use construction paper to make two fringed rectangles to represent

closed eyes and glue to the top of the closed flap. Have children design and cut out a nose and mouth and glue them below the googly eyes (so they can always be seen). Lastly, have them make and glue clothing, hair, and jewelry to the bag. Remind children that when Jairus's daughter died, Jesus healed her and she woke up.

3rd–5th

### Option 1: Strong Faith Wall Hanging

*Supply List: tape, aluminum foil, construction paper, permanent markers*

*Before Class: Gather supplies. Cut pieces of aluminum foil slightly smaller than pieces of construction paper (one per child). Make a sample craft.*

Give each child a piece of aluminum foil and construction paper. Have children tape the aluminum foil to the center of the construction paper. Set markers on tables. Have children write FAITH in large bubble letters and decorate around the letters. Remind children that Jesus told the woman that her faith had healed her.

### Option 2: Get Up Girl!

*Supply List: cardstock, scissors, straws, colored pencils, staplers*

*Before Class: Gather supplies. Cut 3-inch squares of cardstock (two per child). Make a sample craft.*

Give each child a straw and two pieces of cut cardstock. Set remaining supplies on tables. On one square, have children draw the face of a sad girl with closed eyes. On the second square, have children draw the same girl with open eyes and a big smile. Have children staple the squares together so faces are outward and attach to the top of a straw. Have children place the straw between their palms and quickly slide hands back and forth so the two faces seem to blend into one. Adjust speed to make eyes “open” and “close.” Remind children that when Jairus's daughter died, Jesus healed her and told her to get up.



Visit [TheBiggestStory.com](https://www.TheBiggestStory.com) for downloadable coloring pages, activity pages, and craft templates for this lesson.