

Dead or Alive?

Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-42; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 342, 343



Have you ever been really, really sick? So sick that you were too weak to get out of bed? Maybe the doctor gave you medicine or a shot or hooked you up to machines to help you breathe. We're going to read about a girl who needed more than a doctor to make her well.

Jairus' 12-year-old daughter had been sick for some time. Her parents did everything they could think of to help their daughter get well. But she only grew weaker.

Good parents love their children and will do anything to help them get well. So imagine how upset Jairus felt when his only child was so sick. He didn't want to leave her side. Again and again he sent for doctors and other people known to help sick children. But nobody could help.

Then Jairus thought of Jesus, the Master Teacher, from Galilee. Everyone was talking about His miracles. Jesus was Jairus' last hope. Jairus whispered to his daughter, "I'm going to find help." Then Jairus left home and hurried as fast as he could to Matthew's house. He knew that he would find Jesus there.

"My only daughter is very sick. She may be dying. I need You to come to my house and



put Your hands on her. Then she will get well," Jairus told Jesus.

Jairus' faith pleased Jesus. At once He started to leave with Jairus.

But a large crowd had gathered, waiting for Jesus to come out of Matthew's house. The people crowded Jesus as He walked along. Everyone was anxious to be near Him. They pushed and shoved one another. Often they bumped against Jesus as well.

Suddenly Jesus stopped. "Who touched Me?" He asked.

"With all these people, Lord, You're asking us who touched You?" Peter couldn't believe Jesus had asked such a question.

Jesus continued to look around. Finally a woman stepped up to Him.

The Message

We worship a God who gives eternal life.

Memory Verse

“Jesus said . . . , ‘I am the resurrection and the life’ ”

(John 11:25).

“I touched You,” she said, weeping softly. “I have been sick a very long time. For 12 years I have been trying to get well. I thought if I could only touch You, I would be healed.”

Jesus felt happy because the woman had such strong faith in Him. He couldn’t just rush away. “Be happy,” Jesus told her. “You are healed because you had faith in Me. Go and enjoy your life.”

Before Jesus and Jairus could continue, one of Jairus’ servants pushed through the crowd. “It’s no use to bother the Teacher anymore,” he told Jairus. “Your little girl is dead.” Poor Jairus! His loving father’s heart must have felt heavy with sadness.

But Jesus turned to Jairus. “Don’t be afraid,” He said. “Just believe.”

Jesus called Peter, James, and John to follow Him. Together they hurried to Jairus’ home.

Jairus’ house was full of people, all wailing and crying loudly. Some of them did not even know Jairus, but they showed sympathy by crying together.

“Send the mourners away,” Jesus commanded. “Your daughter isn’t dead. She’s only sleeping.” When the people heard this, they laughed at Him.

Jesus told all the people to leave. Then He took the three disciples into the house along with Jairus and his wife.

In the girl’s room Jesus stood by the bed and reached for her hand. “Child, get up,” He said.

The little girl opened her eyes and sat up. Imagine how she must have felt when she looked into Jesus’ happy eyes.

“Give her something to eat,” Jesus told her joyful parents. Jairus’ daughter was well and strong again.

Not only did Jesus love to heal sick people—He was delighted to give people life again. “I am the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25), He said. He came to earth to save us, too, from death and to give us life. We worship a God who gives eternal life. Don’t you love Him!





S A B B A T H

DO If possible, go to a cemetery with your family and read your lesson story. Imagine what that place will be like when Jesus comes again.

THINK Read John 11:25 in your Bible. Will some people die first before they live forever?

SING Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me":

"Christ is coming, this I know,
He Himself has told me so.

John fourteen and one, two, three,
Read yourself and there you'll see.

Yes, He is coming, Yes, He is coming,
Yes, He is coming. The Bible tells me so."

M O N D A Y

THINK With your family, talk about waiting. Have you ever had to wait for someone? How did you feel about waiting? How do you think Jairus felt having to wait for Jesus?

READ Read Psalm 27:14. Pray and ask Jesus to help you wait for important things. Ask Him to come soon.

DO Say your memory verse together.

In Bible times, when someone dies, the family hired people to help them cry. They also tore their clothes. They had 39 special ways to tear their clothes!



S U N D A Y

READ With your family taking turns, read and discuss the lesson story in Mark 5:21-42. In what way is death like sleep? (See verse 39.)

DO Talk about the kinds of life on this earth. Cut out pictures from magazines of plants, animals, birds, fish, and people. Glue them to a poster board. Write on top: "All life comes from God."

DO Write your memory verse on a card and decorate it. Practice saying it. Then thank God for the gift of life.

T U E S D A Y

THINK Can you remember a time when you were very sick? What did it feel like?

SHARE During worship, ask your family members to tell you about a time they were sick and got well again. Read Psalm 103:1-3 together, then pray and thank God for giving you life and health.

SING Make up a tune for your memory verse and sing it for worship. Then pray for someone who is sick.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ During worship today, read Mark 5:25-29 together. Draw a picture of the woman touching Jesus' robe. Show what Jairus was doing at the same time. Ask Jesus to help you to believe the way the woman did.

DO Show your memory verse card, then sing or say your memory verse.

THURSDAY

DO With your family, make a get-well card for someone you know who is sick. Write John 10:10, the last part, on your card. Ask someone to help you mail it. As a family, make plans to visit that person soon. Plan to say your memory verse for them.



FRIDAY

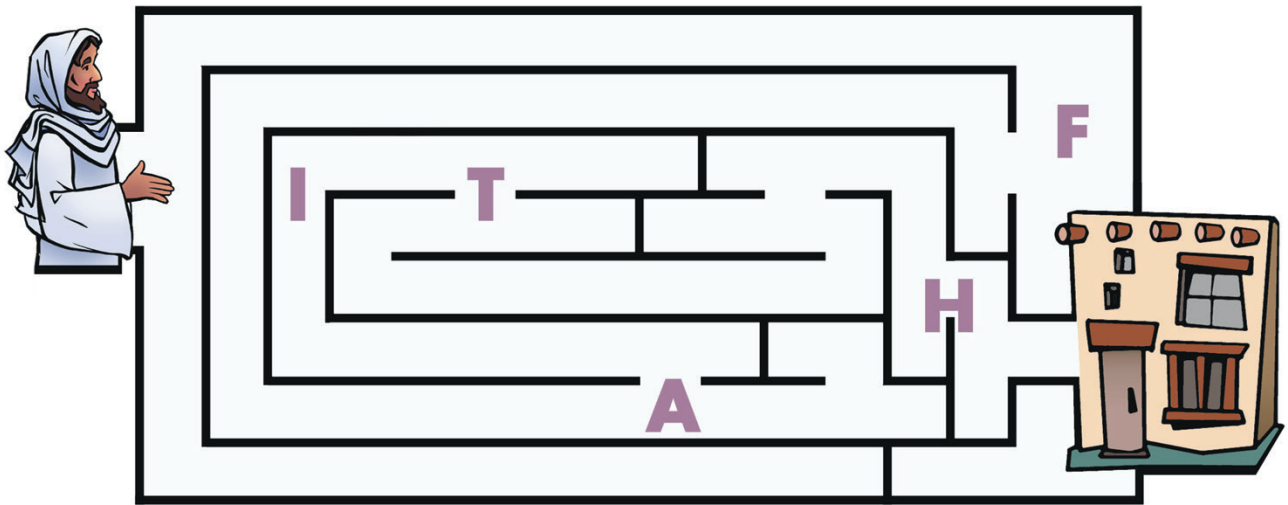
READ During worship, read Matthew's version of your lesson story in Matthew 9:18-26.

DO Ask your family to help you act out the story of Jairus' daughter. You might want to include the story of the woman who touched Jesus' clothes.

SING Sing your memory verse to your family. Teach them to sing it too. Thank God for Bible stories that help us to know Him better.

PUZZLE

Directions: Follow Jesus to Jarius' house to find out what makes the difference in this week's lesson. Watch for hidden letters. Write them on the line below in the order in which you find them.



PUZZLE LETTERS: _____