

November 1, 2026
"Two More Examples of Great Faith"
Luke 8:40–56

Jesus loves great faith. It must be important to him. Thus far, in Luke, we've seen:

1. The centurion and his sick servant: just say the word
2. Rebuking the disciples for their little faith after the storm (implication: their faith could have calmed the storm!)

And now, two more examples in **Luke 8:40–56**

First, the woman with the issue of blood

Luke 8:40
"Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him."

- Jesus has returned to Jewish territory on the other side of the Lake of Galilee
- The crowds had swelled, awaiting his return
- They welcomed him (Cheers? Applause?)
- Jesus's return was highly anticipated

Luke 8:41
"And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus's feet, he implored him to come to his house,"

- A man named Jairus approaches Jesus
- He is a ruler of the synagogue (like a pastor who organizes and oversees gatherings)
- He is high up, well respected, and well-known
- He falls at Jesus's feet — note the connection of humility and faith
- And "implores" him/begs him (a kind of prayer) to come to his house

Luke 8:42

"for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went, the people pressed around him."

- What is the problem?
- His only daughter, who is about 12 years old, is dying
- Imagine how frantic and desperate he is
- As Jesus was moving toward Jairus's house,
- People pressed all around him (the crowds were huge and bumping into one another)

Luke 8:43

"And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone."

- There's a woman in the crowd
- She had a discharge of blood for 12 years...imagine 12 years!
- How many times she had prayed for God to heal her (five times per day?)
- Plus, she had spent all her income on physicians, to no avail
- She was ceremonially unclean — **Leviticus 15:25-30** — which means isolation
- If she touched someone, that person would be unclean — a social pariah
- She was sick and broke; it was a hopeless situation

Luke 8:44

"She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased."

- She came up behind Jesus and touched the hem of his garment
  Malachi 4:2
  "But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall."
- "Wings" in this verse can also be translated tassels
- The belief that the Messiah would have healing in the tassels of his robe
- Did this woman believe that Jesus was the Messiah? It seems so
- Did she believe that touching his tassels would bring her healing? It seems so
- Surely, she bumped into some others which would make them unclean
- They would need to go through ceremonial cleansing
- But she didn't care. She was desperate — another sign of great faith!
- She knelt/dove to touch his garment and was successful
- And the discharge of blood ceased

NOTE THE DIVINE INTERRUPTION: Jesus and Jairus's plan: heal Jairus's daughter, then an interruption

- We plan our days; God plans his interruptions
- God wants us to meet the needs of the person before us

Luke 8:45
"And Jesus said, 'Who was it who touched me?' When all denied it, Peter said, 'Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!'"

- Jesus asked, "Who was it who touched me?"
- Everyone around him denied doing so
- Did they think Jesus was angry? That he was going to rebuke the person who did it?
- Peter, the disciples' spokesman, "Look at the large crowds! How can we know?"

Luke 8:46
"But Jesus said, 'Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me.'"

- Jesus: "Someone touched me, for I felt the power come out from me."
- Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, could tell when his power left him
- They are SO connected (how Jesus wants us to live!)
- Think about a mom and a sleeping baby at night and the baby makes a sound

Luke 8:47

"And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed."

- Somehow, it was obvious that she had touched Jesus
- She came with fear and trembling before Jesus; an awesome respect of Jesus
- Will he punish her? Rebuke her? Take away her healing?
- And she fell before him. Complete surrender. Total dependence — definitions of faith
- Humility, desperation, surrender, dependence, awe, respect — all parts of faith
- She gave her testimony, telling why she touched Jesus

Luke 8:48

"And he said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.'"

- And Jesus turned to speak to her
- Notice Jesus's utter tenderness, he says to her:

1. *"Daughter"* — no rebuke — the Greek word can also be "lamb" — Jesus is here a shepherd to one of his lost sheep
2. *"Your faith"* — she had great faith that needed to be exercised; Jesus noted "your faith" that she exercised
3. *"Has made you well"* — saved, whole — body, soul, and spirit
4. *"Go in peace"* — Go in the fullness of life now, in perfect shalom, total wellness

Wow! What a story! Imagine the joy among the people and the woman

Now back again to Jairus.

What is he thinking watching all this? Precious seconds were ticking off the life of his only 12-year-old daughter. The tapping of his foot, anxiety rising within, saying perhaps, "C'mon! We gotta go!"

Always remember: God's delay is not God's denial

Jesus knew what he was doing

Luke 8:49
"While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, 'Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher anymore.'"

- While Jesus was still speaking to the healed woman
- Someone from the ruler's house comes and gives the dreaded words:
- "Your daughter is dead, don't trouble the Teacher anymore." Sigh. Silence
- A negative report (how negative words destroy faith)

Luke 8:50
"But when Jesus heard this, he answered him, 'Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well.'"

- *"But Jesus"* — two very important words from Jesus to help build faith
- He heard the negative report, and he knew what negative words/reports do to faith
- He responded:

    1. *"Do not fear"* — biblically, the antidote to fear is faith
    2. *"Only believe"* — only have faith
    3. *"And she will be well"* — it's not over yet! Jesus always has the last word

Luke 8:51

"And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child."

- Jesus arrived at the house
- He wouldn't permit any of the crowd to enter: no unbelief in the house!
- Just Peter, James, and John — why them?

    1. They are so important for the gospel's advancement
    2. Think of the number of New Testament books they wrote: Mark (Peter's words), John, 1–3 John, Revelation, 1 and 2 Peter, James (10 of the 27 NT books by these three!)
    3. Jesus wanted to build their faith as well with this miracle

- And the father and mother were permitted to enter (for obvious reasons)
- Deep love wants to believe

Luke 8:52

"And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, 'Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping.'"

- Professional mourners were weeping and mourning
- Jesus said that she was just sleeping
- She was dead, but being called back to life

Luke 8:53

"And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead."

- They laughed at Jesus; notice the contrast with faith: mocking/laughing/scoffing
- Jesus knew that she really was dead but would still live

Luke 8:54

"But taking her by the hand he called, saying, 'Child, arise.'"

- Jesus took her by the hand (a gentle touch)

- Jesus's touch of grace overcomes the power of death!
- And:

    1. Called to her: "Child"...(Talitha in the Aramaic)
    2. "Arise"...(kumai)

- An interesting story with Peter in **Acts 9:36–42**

    1. A young girl named Tabitha died
    2. Peter calls her name: "Tabitha"
    3. "Arise" — such similar stories

Peter imitated Jesus: it's always a good thing to do — WWJD?

Luke 8:55
"And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat."

- And her spirit returned and she got up at once
- We are all eternal spirits in a body
- Jesus tells mom to get her something to eat (mom also probably needed something to do!)

Luke 8:56
"And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened."

- Her parents were amazed
- Jesus instructs them to tell no one what had happened
- The Messianic Secret — Jesus's time had not yet come

Application

Great faith: all of Jesus's followers can have it:

1. Does not listen to the premise
2. But always listens to God's promise

Where are God's promises?

Romans 10:17 "Faith comes by hearing and hearing God's Word"

1. Look at your problem
2. Find a Scripture
3. And speak to the problem (memorize verse if possible)

But God...

- If you feel attacked by the enemy: **1 John 4:4**
  "Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."
- If you feel defeated: **Romans 8:37**
  "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."
- If you feel fear: **2 Timothy 1:7**
  "for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."
- If you feel anxious: **Philippians 4:6–7**
  "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
- If you feel fear: **Isaiah 41:10**
  "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
- If you feel rejected: **Isaiah 53:3**
  "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not."
- If you feel doubt: **James 1:6**
  "But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."
- If you feel hopeless: **Romans 15:13**
  "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."
- If you feel condemned: **Romans 8:1**

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

- If you are afraid of death: **John 11:25–26**
  "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?'"
- If you feel unbelief and your faith is small: **Matthew 17:20**
  "He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.'"

Replace the negative emotion with God's Word. Memorized. Spoken. Believed.

And go enjoy your life in God's peace that passes all understanding