

Believers are to exercise their faith right from the beginning of their salvation, after their salvation and to the end of their lives. In Mark 5:35-43, we will consider the second example: Jairus.

1      Mark 5:22-23: Reality of the Faith Exercised

Jairus displayed his faith through humility, seeking the Lord and trusting in who He was. As a ruler of the synagogue, Jairus was a man of authority and had the responsibility for the proper teaching and preaching of God’s Word. The religious leaders generally were not fond of Jesus, and this led them to plot His death. Jairus, however, humbled himself and sought the Lord Jesus because he recognised his need for Him. He knew that Jesus could help him in his predicament, and his actions demonstrated his faith and trust in Jesus.

2      Mark 5:35-36: Extent of Faith Tested

The reason Jairus went to Jesus was the sickness of his daughter. She was lying at the point of death. And his faith was tested further when his daughter died. The death of his daughter could have caused Jairus to give up hope in the Lord. However, Jesus encouraged him to continue believing. Jesus knew what Jairus was going through and remained present with him during his trial.

Similarly, our faith may be tested much when our circumstances worsen and greater difficulties arise. Whether we succeed or fail in these trials, we must always continue trusting in the Lord without murmuring or complaining, and to remember that He can use these situations to strengthen our faith.

3      Mark 5:37-43: Effect of Faith Realised

When Jairus exercised his faith and trusted in the Lord, God answered his prayer and strengthened his faith. The raising of Jairus’ daughter from the dead was a miracle. It showed Jairus the power of Jesus beyond what could be seen with his physical eyes. Although there were many people weeping and wailing at his daughter’s death, he had the eyes of faith to see beyond the circumstances. The death of Jairus’ daughter allowed Jesus to perform the miracle of raising her to life again, eventually resulting in the strengthening of Jairus’ faith. Her eating afterwards confirmed that she truly had been restored to life.

We too must always exercise our faith the way Jairus did, and see things beyond the physical. We must look always to Jesus and see our lives from God’s perspective.

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