

STORY 6: MIRACLE

One day, Jesus got into the boat and crossed Lake Galilee. Then as he stood on the shore, a large crowd gathered around him. The person in charge of the Jewish meeting place was also there. His name was Jairus, and when he saw Jesus, he went over to him. He knelt at Jesus' feet and started begging him for help. He said, "My daughter is about to die! Please come and touch her, so she will get well and live." She was his only daughter, a girl of about twelve years of age. So Jesus went with Jairus.

As Jesus was on his way the large crowd followed and pressed around him. In the crowd was a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years. She had gone to many doctors, and they had not done anything except cause her a lot of pain. She had paid them all the money she had. But instead of getting better, she only got worse.

The woman had heard about Jesus, and so she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothes, because she thought, "If I can just touch his clothes, I will be healed." As soon as she touched them, her bleeding stopped, and she knew she was well.

Immediately, Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

His disciples said to him, "Look at all these people crowding around you! How can you ask who touched you?" But Jesus turned to see who had touched him.

Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at Jesus' feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "You are now well because of your faith. May God give you peace! You are healed, and you will no longer be in pain."

While Jesus was still speaking some men came from the house of Jairus saying, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher any more?" But Jesus ignored their words and said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed."

When Jesus arrived at the house of Jairus he saw a commotion with people crying and wailing loudly as they mourned. "Stop this crying and wailing," Jesus said, "The child isn't dead. She is just asleep." But the people just laughed at him.

After Jesus had put all the people out of the house, he took three of his disciples and the dead girl's mother and father and went to where the child was. Jesus took the girl by the hand and said to her, "Little girl, get up!" Immediately her spirit returned, she stood up and walked around. The parents were completely astonished. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat and ordered her parents not to tell anyone what had happened. But news of it quickly spread through all that region.