



Sermon, June 7, 2026

Part A: Matthew 9:9-13.

- In this Gospel, Jesus calls Matthew, a tax collector, to follow Him, and Matthew responds immediately with obedience by following Him.
- Jesus then shares a meal with tax collectors and sinners, drawing criticism from the Pharisees. They (Pharisees) asked the disciples, **“Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”**
- Through His actions, Jesus teaches that He came to offer God’s mercy and grace to those who recognize their need for forgiveness, saying: “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick, I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I have come not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Part B Mathew 9:18-26

In this Gospel, we encounter two miracles woven together: the healing of a woman who had suffered for twelve years, and the raising of a ruler’s daughter.

Faith That Reaches for Jesus, and no situation is Hopeless for Jesus.

This is a powerful passage in the Gospel of Matthew.

It is a story about desperation, interruption, and faith. This narrative reminds us that no situation is hopeless for Jesus.

The narrative begins with a synagogue ruler approaching Jesus. In the Gospel of Mark 5:22, we learn that his name is Jairus. He falls at Jesus’ feet and says, “My daughter has just died. But come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”

This ruler had status, influence, and authority in the synagogue. However, none of those things could save his daughter. Wealth could not help him. Position could not help him. Human strength had reached its limit.

And isn’t that where many people finally meet God? At the end of ourselves.

Sometimes God allows us to come to places where we realize that our answers are not enough. Our plans are not enough. Our control is not enough. And in that moment, we either collapse in despair or fall at the feet of Jesus, and I believe that is where we all need to be or to fall.

Notice something important: Jesus went with Jairus immediately. When broken people call on Christ, He responds with compassion. However, on His way to Jairus’s house, Jesus is **interrupted**.

A woman appears in the crowd. Matthew tells us she had suffered from bleeding for twelve years. That means twelve years of pain. Twelve years of weakness. Twelve years of isolation.

According to the law of that time, her condition made her ceremonially unclean. That meant she lived not only with physical suffering but also social and spiritual separation. Imagine the loneliness. **Imagine the feeling of being forgotten for over a decade.**

This woman did not allow her situation to prevent her healing. She says to herself, **“If I only touch His garment, I will be healed.”**

What a picture of faith! How many of us can think like this woman? Can you picture yourself in this situation, yet continue to seek **Jesus and remain firm in faith?** This woman does not make a speech. She does not stand in front of the crowd. She simply reaches for Jesus. The moment she touches his garment, **Jesus turns and says,** “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.”

Immediately, she is healed.

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People of God, there is something beautiful here: **Jesus stops for the person everyone else overlooked.** The crowd saw this woman as an interruption. But Jesus saw a daughter. **People may overlook your pain,** but Jesus never does; He sees you as God's child. Some people suffer quietly for years. Smiling on the outside while bleeding on the inside. Carrying grief, fear, addiction, shame, anxiety, disappointment. This very moment, this story reminds us that one touch from Jesus can change everything in our lives.

I want you to notice also that Jesus called her "daughter." That word restored more than her body; it restored her dignity and identity. Jesus did not merely heal her condition. He welcomed her back into the relationship. **That is what Christ does. He restores what suffering tries to steal.**

But now we are returning to Jairus. Imagine how difficult this delay must have been for him. Every second mattered. While Jesus stopped to help someone else, Jairus's situation seemed to grow worse. **Have you ever been in a situation where you had to wait and wait?** And you started asking these: "Lord, why are You delaying?" "Why haven't You answered yet?" "Why does it seem like you are helping everyone else before me?"

Nonetheless, even in the delay, Jesus was still in control. When they arrive at the ruler's house, mourners are already gathered. The atmosphere is full of grief and finality. People are weeping because death appears to have won.

But Jesus says something shocking: **"Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping."** The crowd laughs at Him. The world often laughs at faith. The world says: This marriage is too broken; this relationship will not survive. This person is too far gone. This situation is impossible. There is no hope.

But Jesus specializes in what people call impossible. He enters the room, takes the girl by the hand, and she rises. Just like that, death has to let go.

This miracle points us to the greater truth of the Gospel: Jesus has authority even over death itself. Every miracle in the Gospels whispers the same message: Jesus is not just a teacher, not just a prophet, not just a good man. He is Lord over sickness, suffering, sin, and the grave. That is why we, as Christians, have hope. We have hope because the same Jesus who raised Jairus's daughter will one day walk out of His own tomb in victory.

So, what does this passage teach us today?

First, bring your desperation to Jesus. Jairus did not hide his need. The woman did not deny her suffering. They came honestly and urgently to Christ. **Second, faith reaches for Jesus even when circumstances look hopeless.** One man (Jairus) faced death. One woman faced twelve years of disappointment. Yet both believed Jesus could still intervene.

Third, delays are not denials. While Jairus waited, Jesus was still working. Sometimes God's timing stretches our faith, but His delays always have purpose.

Finally, Jesus responds to faith. Not perfect faith. Not polished faith. Just real faith. Remember that the woman only touched His garment. Jairus only asked Him to come. And that was enough.

Now here comes my question: Where do we fit in this story?

Maybe you feel like the woman—wounded, exhausted, and unnoticed.

Or maybe you feel like Jairus—watching a situation die before your eyes.

This gospel reminds us that Jesus still walks toward broken people. He still honors faith. He still brings life where death seems to reign. So, reach for Him. Call on Jesus. Trust Him.

Because the Savior who ate with tax collectors and sinners, stopped for a suffering woman, and raised a little girl, is still powerful today. He is the same yesterday, the same today, the same tomorrow, and the same forever. **Amen.**

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