Chinese Community Church - Washington DC September 14, 2014 Message Notes Pastor Richard Ross

# "Beauty Restored"

# Our Scripture Passage for Today

#### Mark 5:22-36

<sup>22</sup> Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. <sup>23</sup> He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." <sup>24</sup> So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. <sup>25</sup> And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. || <sup>26</sup> She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. <sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." <sup>29</sup> Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. ||

- <sup>30</sup> At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"
- <sup>31</sup> "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' "
- $^{32}$  But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.  $^{33}$  Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.  $\parallel$   $^{34}$  He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."
- <sup>35</sup> While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"
- <sup>36</sup> Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

# Message Notes

#### A. Introduction

- Beauty from Broken Pieces (thanks to the USPS)
- Francis Schaeffer quote from "Death in the City"

"The church in our generation needs reformation (and) revival...

At times, men think of the two words, reformation and revival, as standing in contrast one to the other, but this is a mistake. Both words are related to the word **restore**.

Reformation refers to a restoration to pure doctrine; revival refers to a restoration of the Christian's life. Reformation speaks of a return to the teachings of Scripture; revival speaks of a life brought into its proper relationship to the Holy Spirit.

The great moments of church history have come when these two restorations have simultaneously come into action so that the church has returned to pure doctrine and the lives of the Christians in the church have known the power of the Holy Spirit. There cannot be true revival unless there has been reformation; and reformation is not complete without revival."



- B. Insights from Mark 5:22-31
  - 1. Main characters: Jesus, Jairus, Jairus' daughter, the woman, the disciples, the crowd
  - 2. Obstacles Overcome through Faith
  - 3. Jesus' Touch Brings Healing
  - 4. Jesus' Word to Us: "Don't' be afraid; just believe."
- C. Prayer Response

#### **Individual or Small Group Study Questions**

- 1. How did your parents take care of you when you were sick?
- 2. How would you describe the similarities and differences in Jairus' and the woman's attitude toward and faith in Jesus?
- 3. When have you ever felt afraid of God, like the woman who touched Jesus?
- 4. What does this passage tell us about Jesus' character?
- 5. In what situation in your life do you need to heed Jesus' words, "Don't be afraid, just believe"?
- 6. What attitude or action do you need to change in your own life in light of the fact that Jesus is willing to respond miraculously to our needs?

# The Sin of Pride

# **Pride's Breeding Ground**

- Wealth & Possessions
- Success & Accomplishments
- Fame & Prestige
- Physical Beauty
- Gifts & Abilities
- Piety & Devotion

## **Pride Detectors**

- A spotty prayer life suggests I am not actively relying on God, nor aware of my need for Him.
- Weariness is often the result of trying to do more than God intends, which means I am not letting Him order my day.
- Anger can mean I am not trusting God's sovereign plan and timing, and am trying to take control from Him.
- A critical spirit, the sorry act of bringing others down in order to lift up myself, often points to an inflated sense of self.
- A defensive reaction to criticism, despondency after failure, and the inability to laugh at my mistakes all suggest that I am taking myself too seriously and thinking of myself too highly.
- Taking responsibility for success, accomplishment, or financial prosperity may mean I have lost sight of God's gracious and undeserved provision.
- Impatience about having to listen, wait, serve, be anonymous, or be led by someone else all hint at an overdeveloped sense of importance.



"Man is happy when he has a utensil that remains whole and is saddened when it breaks. God, on the other hand, whose most cherished possession is a man's heart, delights when it is broken in humility."

- David W. Henderson

### **Pride Busters**

- Ask God to make you unimpressed by your successes, accomplishments, and position.
- Keep godly company.
- Spend time in the mountains or at the ocean.
- Give away a lot of money.
- Confess your pride to a trustworthy friend.
- Persist in seeking God. Ask Him daily for His strength, wisdom, provision, direction, peace, and rest.
- Don't do anything to make yourself appear better than you are, and don't let people get away with building you up inappropriately.
- Give it all back to Him every day your success, wealth, home, family, ministry - everything.
- Receive compliments, but then pass them on to the Lord.
- Ask God daily to humble you. Give Him invitation and room to break you daily, even hourly, so that He need not break you in greater, more painful ways.