

BUILD YOUR HOUSE ON THE ROCK

MARK 5:21-43



Questions for Application for the Week of January 6, 2014 **Build Your House On The Rock - Mark 5:21-43**

Happy New Year! We are excited about learning and growing together and pray that this will be a year where you believe upon Christ and his promises. May God richly bless you in the months ahead!

1. Though a man of substance and standing in the community, Jairus was powerless to do anything when his daughter became ill (Mark 5:21-24a). How can his example help us have a proper perspective on status and success? With the beginning of a New Year, are there any changes you need to make related to your goals and aspirations?

2. While assuredly ostracized for being ceremonially “unclean,” Mark never mentions this fact, and instead focuses on all that she had done to try and remedy her situation (Mark 5:25-26) before she turned to Christ. Can you identify ways in which you try and cope or make your life better rather than turning to Christ for help? Are there any patterns that you can identify? How might you desire to respond differently in the coming year?

3. While Jairus and the woman displayed great faith, hidden in the story is another example of the disciples’ failure to recognize God at work (Mark 5:31). Rather than stopping to consider Jesus’ question, they immediately brush it aside. In what ways can we keep our hearts tender to see God at work in our lives? Reflecting over the Christmas season, could you (or can you now in retrospect) identify ways in which God was working in your life?

4. The woman clearly based her hopes on bad theology (Mark 5:28). Jesus’ clothing was no more special than our own; however, her incorrect understanding did not prohibit God’s work in her life (Mark 5:29). What does her example teach us about God and how should it encourage us in our walk with Christ? How does Jesus’ response differ from how we are apt to respond to others who are naïve or misunderstand the faith?

5. Despite great cause for doubt, Jesus encourages Jairus, “Do not fear, only believe.” (Mark 5:36). Can you identify times in your life where, though there was good reason for fear or doubt, you trusted in Christ? What happened? What passages of scriptures has God used to encourage you when you face circumstances that are beyond your control? Make a list and review those passages and pray that this year would be a year of faith for you and lift up others who you know are struggling at this time.