

## **DON'T BE AFRAID! JUST BELIEVE!**

*Luke 8:22-9:17*

### **I. Don't be afraid; just believe...when you find yourself in a sudden furious storm. (Luke 8:22-25)**

- A. Jesus is always looking for faith, and fear is the thief trying to steal it. (*Hebrews 11:6*)
- B. Resting your faith on God's concern for you (*Mark 4:35-41*)
- C. What exactly did Jesus want them to do?
  1. "Do you still have no faith?" (*Mark 4:40*)
  2. Speaking out and standing firm (*Ephesians 6:10-13*)

### **II. Don't be afraid; just believe...when the supernatural power of God scares and confuses you. (Luke 8:26-39)**

- A. The people were probably afraid that Jesus was some kind of "prince of demons." (*Luke 8:35, 37; 11:14, 15*)
- B. If there is good fruit, keep your heart open and ask God to give you wisdom and confirmation.

### **III. Don't be afraid; just believe...when you feel completely unworthy to approach God. (Luke 8:40-48)**

- A. By touching Jesus, the woman actually made Jesus unclean. (*Lev. 15:25-27*)
- B. The story is a beautiful picture of how faith in Jesus fulfills the law and causes power to flow from God. (*Luke 8:48*)

### **IV. Don't be afraid; just believe...even when it seems that the past cannot be fixed. (Luke 8:49-56)**

- A. What was going on in the mind of Jairus?
- B. The wrong response to the barrenness of the past (*Luke 1:18-20*)
- C. "Everything is possible for him who believes." (*Mark 9:21-24*)

### **V. Don't be afraid; just believe...even when there doesn't appear to be enough. (Luke 9:1-17)**

- A. Your Father in Heaven is ENOUGH! (*Matthew 6:6-11, 25-34; Luke 9:17*)
- B. Releasing the Kingdom will always require overcoming inadequacy. Jesus set it up that way. (*Luke 9:3, 13; II Corinthians 12:9*)
- C. Miracles can take us toward or away from the Lord. (*Mark 8:14*)

*Luke 8:22-9:17*

**Jesus calms the storm**

One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. *(Luke 8:22)*

As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. *(Luke 8:23)*

The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. *(Luke 8:24)*

"Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him." *(Luke 8:25)*

**Jesus delivers the demoniac**

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. *(Luke 8:26)*

When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. *(Luke 8:27)*

When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" *(Luke 8:28)*

For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. *(Luke 8:29)*

Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. *(Luke 8:30)*

And they begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. *(Luke 8:31)*

A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into them, and he gave them permission. *(Luke 8:32)*

When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. *(Luke 8:33)*

When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, *(Luke 8:34)*

and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. *(Luke 8:35)*

Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. *(Luke 8:36)*

Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left. *(Luke 8:37)*

The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, *(Luke 8:38)*

"Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him. *(Luke 8:39)*

### **Jesus, Jairus and the woman with hemorage**

Now when Jesus returned, a crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. *(Luke 8:40)*

Then a man named Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come to his house *(Luke 8:41)*

because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying. As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. *(Luke 8:42)*

And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. *(Luke 8:43)*

She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped. *(Luke 8:44)*

"Who touched me?" Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you." *(Luke 8:45)*

But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me." *(Luke 8:46)*

Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. *(Luke 8:47)*

Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace." *(Luke 8:48)*

While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," he said. "Don't bother the teacher any more." *(Luke 8:49)*

Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed." *(Luke 8:50)*

When he arrived at the house of Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child's father and mother. *(Luke 8:51)*

Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. "Stop wailing," Jesus said. "She is not dead but asleep." *(Luke 8:52)*

They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. *(Luke 8:53)*

But he took her by the hand and said, "My child, get up!" *(Luke 8:54)*

Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat. *(Luke 8:55)*

Her parents were astonished, but he ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened. *(Luke 8:56)*

### **Jesus sends out the twelve**

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, *(Luke 9:1)*

and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. *(Luke 9:2)*

He told them: "Take nothing for the journey - no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra tunic. *(Luke 9:3)*

Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town.*(Luke 9:4)*

If people do not welcome you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave their town, as a testimony against them." *(Luke 9:5)*

So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere. *(Luke 9:6)*

Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was going on. And he was perplexed, because some were saying that John had been raised from the dead, *(Luke 9:7)*

others that Elijah had appeared, and still others that one of the prophets of long ago had come back to life. *(Luke 9:8)*

But Herod said, "I beheaded John. Who, then, is this I hear such things about?" And he tried to see him. *(Luke 9:9)*

When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, *(Luke 9:10)*

but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing. *(Luke 9:11)*

### **Jesus feeds the five thousand**

Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here." *(Luke 9:12)*

He replied, "You give them something to eat." They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish - unless we go and buy food for all this crowd." *(Luke 9:13)*

(About five thousand men were there.) But he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." *(Luke 9:14)*

The disciples did so, and everybody sat down. *(Luke 9:15)*

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the people. *(Luke 9:16)*

They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. *(Luke 9:17)*