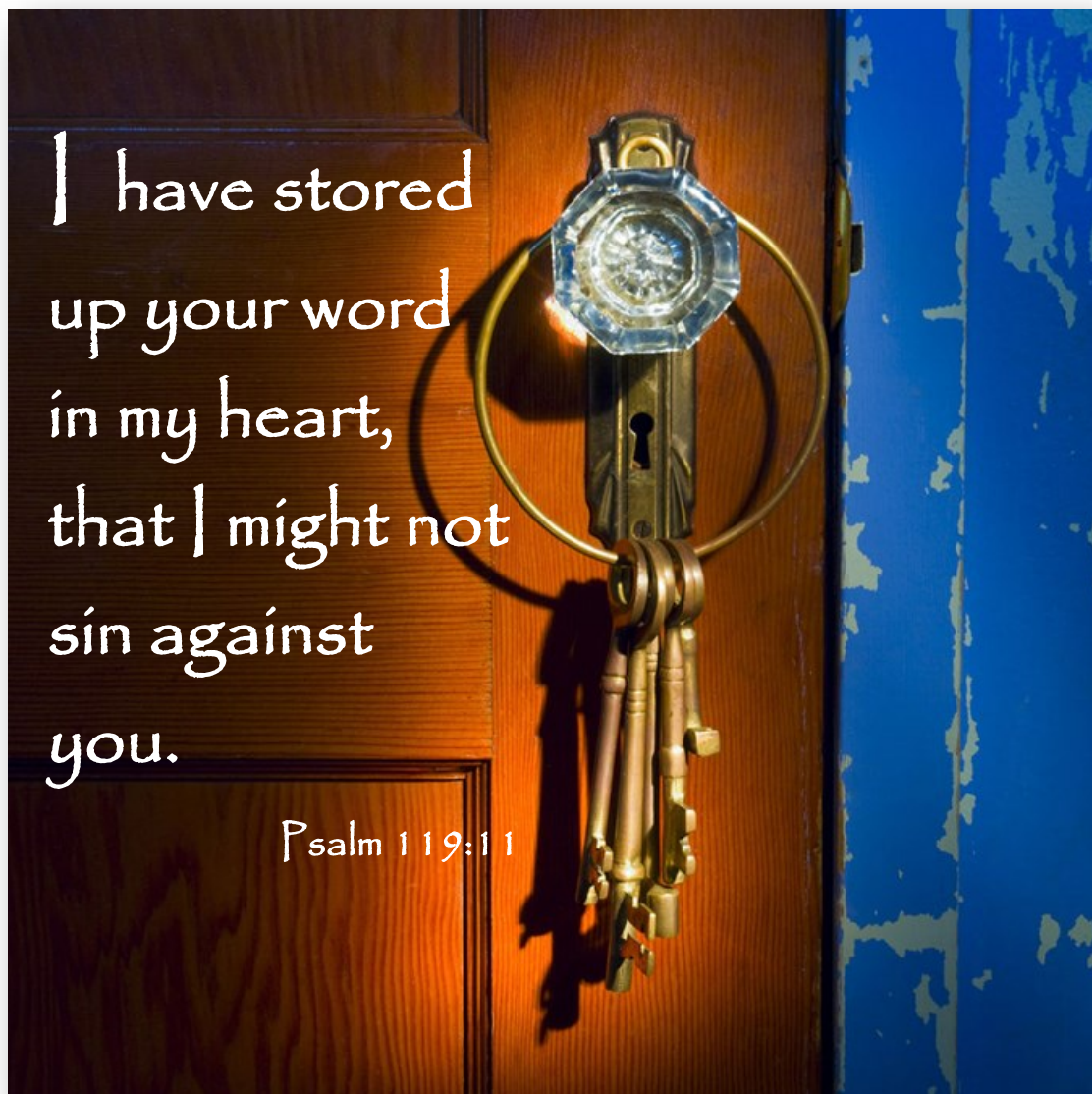


# UNLOCKING THE WORD



**THE GOSPEL OF MARK STUDY GUIDE**

**Chapter 5**

THE GOSPEL OF MARK  
JESUS CHRIST SERVANT AND KING  
A STUDY OF MARK 5  
STUDY SEVEN

LIFE AND DEATH ARE IN HIS HAND

MARK 5:21-24, 35-43

“WE ARE BORN INTO THIS WORLD WITH A TERMINAL DISEASE CALLED LIFE WHICH TERMINATES IN OUR DEATH. WE NEITHER KNOW WHEN OR HOW IT WILL COME, BUT THAT IT COMES, FOR ALL OF US.”

—PASTOR DALE

**PREPARATION IN PRAYER**

Stop and pause before you begin by asking the Holy Spirit to reveal the truths of God’s Word to you, and to quiet your mind to be focused on Him.

Heavenly Father, Let me hear the words you’ve spoken from your word. I want to hear what you have to say to me. You have given me life and breath, you sustain me by your mighty power. You alone are worthy of all my worship, attention and devotion. Let the noise of life fade away as I seek you. Give me ears to hear and a heart to obey. Amen.

**KEYS TO NOTICE**

1. *In death do not fear, only believe.* Jesus’ reminder to Jairus still applies to the Christian today. There is no fear in death.
2. *Fear is not a virtue but a sin.* Jesus’ words make this clear and he repeats this over and over, fear not, your life is in God’s hands.
3. *Jesus redefines death, liking it to sleep.* Death is the entrance into the presence of the Lord for every believer. We have no fear about what is coming after death, only joy.

**OBSERVATIONS:**

Jesus sails back presumably to Capernaum where Jairus was one of the rulers of the synagogues. Read Luke 13:10-17. What was the general attitude between Jesus and the Jewish rulers?

Of course not all the rulers were like this, Acts 13:15, 18:8. What was Jairus' motivation for coming to Jesus?

What three acts does Jairus perform beginning in vs 22?

What has to be present in order to see Jesus for who He is? See Hebrews 11:6. How does faith come? Vs 27, Romans 10:17

Jairus is taking a real risk in his social standing as a ruler to fall down at Jesus' feet. What does falling at Jesus feet represent?

When faith in God exists the right response is for worship to flow. It is the worshippers responsibility to glorify what or whom is being worshipped allowing what is worshipped to be properly displayed or glorified. How does Jairus "prayer" or petition of Jesus do that? See vs 30.

**OBSERVATIONS:**

While on the way to Jairus home the report came that his daughter had died. How do those reporting describe who Jesus is?

What is insinuated or believed in the reporters question of Jesus being “the teacher” and that he is no longer needed?

What does this question create in the mind of Jairus and how does Jesus refute it?

Why can't fear and faith coexist?

When they get to Jairus' home there is the commotion of mourning. Those wealthy enough in 1st century culture would hire professional mourners to make sure the community knew this was someone of importance. We can see this in their behavior from vs 38 and vs 40. How does Jesus describe death and what the body experiences?

Who stays in the home and who gets “put out”? What does it mean to be “put out”? See Matthew 25:1-13

**OBSERVATIONS:**

This is the first time we see Jesus bring someone back from the dead. When Jesus brings this twelve year old girl back to life what is her demeanor?

When someone today claims to have the gift of healing what should be seen?

Jesus instructs the those in the house to not tell anyone of the miracle He performed. Why? See vs 24.

### INTERPRETATIONS:

**Jesus is divine.** Jesus miracle act of bringing someone back from the dead is meant to substantiate who He is, God. Mark has been portraying to his Roman audience key characteristics of the nature of Jesus. If you, like his Roman audience, are living far away and hearing this for the first time what would some of the responses be? How are those any different from how far away we are in history from this event? How would you explain that Jesus is therefore the Son of God?

**Jesus is life and has the power over death.** In raising Jairus' daughter and others in Scripture, Jesus holds the power of life and therefore, also death. What is the sole difference between the two? See John 11:23-27.

**Fear is antithetical to Faith.** Fear and faith cannot exist together in the sense of you cannot believe and not believe at the same time and place. Therefore fear of death, the things of this world is a sin. However we are to fear God, Proverbs 1:7. What is the difference?

**Physical death to the body is like sleep.** Notice it is the body Jesus is referring to not the soul that is at rest or asleep. John 11:11, 1 Thessalonians 4:14, Matthew 27:52. The soul of the believer never sleeps. 2 Corinthians 5:8, Philippians 1:23, Revelation 14:1-4, 13

**APPLICATION: GOD'S WILL TODAY**

Death of our physical body is the reality of life in a sin infected world. God's design was meant for life to be eternal with Him. What does the act of dying represent? Romans 6:23, Genesis 2:17

How is death merciful or is it? If God didn't judge humanity this way, what would be the result?

What is it about death that makes you afraid or are you? Why or why not?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:1-10. How does Paul approach death? What comparison does Paul use for our earthly body in vs 1? Also in vs 1 how does he describe our heavenly body?

If our earthly body is like a tent and our heavenly body is like a building, which one would you prefer? Why?

Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. What is our attitude to be about the death of our bodies or what is happening to them as we age?

**APPLICATION: GOD'S WILL TODAY**

From Mark 5 we saw there were those who reported that Jairus' daughter was dead and not to bother Jesus anymore. Doubt and fear about death and what is to come can grip our minds, but what is Paul's first five words in 2 Cor 5:1 that gets rid of any doubt or fear?

Knowing the truth about death drives out fear. The Bible says that it is appointed man once to die, then judgment—Hebrews 9:27. Why does Paul say, "if" as he beings in 2 Corinthians 5?

Paul knows death is inevitable so what do you think he is waiting for? 1 Corinthians 15:51, 1 Thesalonians 4:15, Philippians 1: 19-25

Notice through these texts Paul's priorities about life/death: 1) rapture; 2) death; 3) I have to stay here and live. How is he able to have those priorities? How can you? Do you?

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

Lord, thank you for the gift of faith and mercy that you have shown to me. May you continue to grow it more and more within me. May I ever live in humility knowing this eternal gift has been given so that I may glorify you with my life. Thank you for beginning a work in me that you will bring to it's rightful completion. Amen.





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