



# Being with Jesus:

## Discipleship in the Book of Mark

### Week 2: Faith Instead of Fear

In this week's lesson, we see a **"Mark Sandwich."** Often in the book of Mark, we begin with one story, then another story interrupts the first one and finishes; then we get back to the original **story's** conclusion. Both of these stories show people overcoming their fears to reach out in faith.

#### Two Stories of Faith vs. Fear

##### Story 1

The response of faith vs. the response of fear

This woman had a number of reasons to be afraid. She may have thought:

- This might not even work!
- I'm breaking a law and could be punished for it.
- If people see me and know who I am, they may reject or shun me for going into this crowd.

But what does she do? Act in faith!

"A large crowd followed and pressed around him. And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 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. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, 'If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.'" Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering." — Mark 5:24-29

##### 2 Questions:

- Why do you think this woman's fears did not stop her?
- What kind of fears stop you from approaching Jesus?

##### Story 2

Placing one's trust in Jesus, no matter the odds

"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?'

Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, 'Don't be afraid; just believe.'" — Mark 5:35-26

##### 2 Questions:

- What do you think the father felt when Jesus said, "Don't be afraid; just believe."?
- How can we have faith in Jesus when fear grips us?

