



Right Here Right Now Jesus Encounters



Last week we looked at how Jesus did things Right Here Right Now that He saw His Father doing. We were invited to do the same.

This week we're going to look at two examples of people who experienced Jesus and see what happened. The first one is story of the Jairus' daughter.

²² Jairus, an official of the local synagogue, arrived, and when he saw Jesus, he threw himself down at his feet ²³and begged him earnestly, "My little daughter is very sick. Please come and place your hands on her, so that she will get well and live!"

(In the meantime, a woman touched his cloak and was healed. He talked with her a moment, but while he was speaking with her...) ³⁵ some messengers came from Jairus' house and told him, "Your daughter has died. Why bother the Teacher any longer?"

³⁶ Jesus paid no attention to ^{36a} what they said, but told him, "Don't be afraid, only believe." ³⁷ Then he did not let anyone else go on with him except Peter and James and his brother John. ³⁸ They arrived at Jairus' house, where Jesus saw the confusion and heard all the loud crying and wailing. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, "Why all this confusion? Why are you crying? The child is not dead—she is only sleeping!"

⁴⁰ They started making fun of him, so he put them all out, took the child's father and mother and his three disciples, and went into the room where the child was lying. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha, koum,*" which means, "Little girl, I tell you to get up!"

⁴² She got up at once and started walking around. (She was twelve years old.) When this happened, **they were completely amazed.** ⁴³ But Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell anyone, and he said, "Give her something to eat."

1. When Jesus told Jairus that he should not be afraid, even though his daughter had died, do you think Jairus believed? Why?

2. Jesus raised Jairus' daughter from being dead. Now she was alive. How did her parents react?

3. Have you ever waited to see if someone is healed and then seen it happen? How did you feel?

When we ask Jesus a question or just open our hands and ask Him to fill us with His peace or joy or love or all three, we have the opportunity to have Him fill us. Then the spirit within us gives us the desire to follow Him when He asks us to do or not do something. We know He wants the best for us.

This morning, I felt Jesus asking me to send a letter to our foster child. But I felt very tired, and then I starting thinking about all the other things I felt I needed to do today. The idea of writing a letter was beginning to be crowded out by these other thoughts. Then an idea came into my mind. "I'll ask Jesus to fill me. Fill me with His peace. I opened up my hands and asked Jesus for His peace." Then I just waited. Slowly His peace began to fill me, not like an earthquake, but like a gentle rain that sometimes we hear or see outside our window. I got the letter done and sent! And I was able to get lots of other things done, too, and cheerfully. That made me feel really good.

I call that a JESUS ENCOUNTER and it had results. The parents of the little girl who was dead and the little girl herself all had a Jesus encounter. We can, too. And let's look at one other example of someone who had one. This time it was a Jesus Encounter through Peter and John.

LITTLES

Have fun - Find a version of the Song, Peter and John Went to Pray, on Youtube and sing along. Or you may know the song already. Or just say the words! Here they are:

Peter and John went to pray: they met a lame man on the way.
He asked for alms and held out his palms, and this is what Peter did say:
"Silver and gold have I none, but what I have I give to you.
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"
He went walking and jumping and praising God,
walking and jumping and praising God.

YOUTH: Here are the actual Bible verses:

Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth hour,^[a] an hour of prayer. ²A certain man who was lame from birth was carried there every day and placed at the temple gate, which is called Beautiful, so that he could beg for donations from those entering the temple. ³When he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple, he asked them for a donation.

*⁴Peter looked directly at him, as did John. Peter said, “Look at us.” ⁵So the man paid close attention to them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I have I will give you. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!” ⁷Peter took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately the man’s feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸Jumping up, he stood and began to walk. He entered the temple courts with them, **walking, jumping, and praising God.***

What was this man’s reaction when He had a Jesus Encounter?

Fun Activity #1: Act this story out. You’ll need a bowl to collect money, one person to play the lame man and two people to play Peter and John. Feel free to use stuffed animals if necessary.

The way the lame man felt - that’s how exciting it is for us to experience Jesus’ power and His love. When we open ourselves up to have Jesus Encounters every day, our lives become very exciting. We can see and do what Jesus is doing when we are filled with Him. We can be like a superhero going from being a normal human to being transformed into people who do amazing things, and sometimes that is huge like praying for healing and seeing it happen. Sometimes it is just something special, like getting a smile from your Mom when she is tired.

YOUR MISSION:

This week, take a moment sometime during each day to ask Jesus to fill you with what you need. It may be His love, peace, strength, joy or something else you need. You can ask for more than one thing. **MAKE SURE YOU PAUSE TO RECEIVE!** As you ask He may even show you what you really need so that He can give you the best thing! When we do this, it's like a chemical reaction. You take two things, one is you, the other one is Jesus. You put them together and something happens!

Fun Activity #2: Try this experiment where two things or more come together and something special happens. Assemble all your ingredients first. If you don't have one or more, let me (Pastor Geordie, 592-3582) know and I'll arrange for you to get them:

Recipe (makes enough for 2 people. You may want to double or triple it!)

Ingredients:

1 cup flour	1 cup milk (non dairy works!)
1 tablespoon baking powder	1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
½ teaspoon salt	1 teaspoon vanilla
2 Tablespoons sugar (optional)	

Directions:

1. In a medium bowl, add the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt, and stir to combine.
2. In a medium bowl, add milk or non-dairy milk, apple cider vinegar, and vanilla, and stir.
3. Pour the liquid mixture into the dry mixture and whisk until smooth.
4. Let batter rest for 5 minutes. (Take a look - THIS IS WHERE THE SOMETHING SPECIAL HAPPENS – like when we receive something from Jesus)
5. Pour about ½ cup (65 grams) of batter onto a nonstick pan or griddle over medium heat.
6. When the top begins to bubble, flip the pancake and cook until golden.

KEY

1. your opinion, but Jairus didn't tell Jesus to forget it!
2. the scripture says they were amazed
3. your own experience is the answer