

We are women who know the joy of the Spirit-filled life. We live and abide in the love of Jesus, trusting that He is enough to meet every need and satisfy every heart.

Reflections of a Bystander

Mark 5

A crowd started forming again around the teacher. I had heard Him speak before. I was listening and watching the responses of those around me. The religious leaders had already said we would be kicked out of the synagogue if we followed Jesus. That's why I sat on the outskirts listening and watching. People were eager to hear but mostly eager for a miracle. It was noisy and people were yelling and clamoring to get closer to Jesus.

I was shocked when I saw the synagogue leader, Jairus run up to Jesus and fall on his knees and plead with Jesus to come heal his sick daughter. He didn't care what anyone else thought. The cool thing was that Jesus agreed to go with Jairus and started heading to his house. All the people were excited and began running along pushing and shoving so they didn't miss a thing. So much jostling about with this energetic and curious crowd.

I started following the group too. I wanted to see for myself what would happen. Jairus was walking closely beside Jesus surrounded by the rowdy crowd when everything stopped suddenly. Well, Jesus stopped suddenly so everyone else stopped too wondering what was happening.

Amid the busy, loud, massive crowd Jesus called out, "Who touched me?" I started looking around. Who's He talking about? What's going on? Jesus had stopped. Jairus was crying and pacing around with deep anguish on his face. He couldn't bear standing still when his daughter needed a miracle. I still don't know what all happened with whoever touched Jesus, but I did hear Jesus tell Jairus not to be afraid but to believe. Jairus' look of fear and dread turned to hope and expectation, and I even saw him smile. Now they were on their way again and Jairus' was clinging to Jesus' side.

Oh, how I wish I could have gone into the house with them, but Jesus only let the girl's parents and three of his disciples go in with Him. He chased out the mourners. A lot of the crowd walked away, but I stayed. I wanted to see what would happen. Soon after Jesus and His disciples left the home. No one else came out the rest of the night. But the following day I saw the little girl at the market with her mother looking completely fine.

I didn't know what to think of this teacher and His miracles. I began to listen to His teachings. I got closer. I watched Jesus. He's not at all like the crazy man our leaders told us about. He is teaching the crowds. He is talking to the group. He takes time for a leader and He takes time for a young girl and her family. I don't understand everything, but there's something different about this man. I want to know more. I want to listen and hear His teachings. I want to watch Him and see how He lives.

I want to follow Him. (Matthew 1:24-26)

~Kim Ball