



5 Daily Devotionals (From August 23rd Sermon)

Day 1 — Go All In

Key Verse:

“My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”
— Matthew 9:18

Reflection

Jairus had a lot to lose. He was a respected synagogue ruler, and Jesus was becoming increasingly controversial. Yet when his daughter became desperately ill, Jairus came to Jesus, knelt before Him, and asked for help.

Sometimes faith looks like that: coming to Jesus when we have nowhere else to turn. Jairus risked his reputation because he believed Jesus was worth trusting.

We may not always understand what God is doing. We may pray for healing, restoration, or change and wonder why He seems to delay. But faith is not confidence that God will give us exactly what we want. Faith is confidence that **Jesus is trustworthy**, even when we cannot see the outcome.

Whatever you are facing today, bring it to Jesus. You don't need the right words or perfect faith. Simply come to Him.

Prayer

Jesus, when I am afraid and don't know what to do, help me trust You. Give me courage to bring my fears, needs, and hopes to You. Strengthen my faith and remind me that You are with me. Amen.

Day 2 — Jesus Sees You

Key Verse:

“Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” — Matthew 9:22

Reflection

For twelve years, this woman had suffered physically, emotionally, and socially. She had spent her money seeking help and had become isolated from the community around her. Yet Jesus saw her.

She tried to approach quietly, perhaps hoping not to be noticed. But Jesus stopped. He called her forward and publicly restored not only her health, but her place among the people.

What a beautiful picture of the heart of Christ. We may feel overlooked, ashamed, forgotten, or unworthy. We may even try to slip quietly into church and quietly back out again. But Jesus sees us.

He knows the wounds we don't talk about. He knows the guilt we carry, the relationships that hurt, and the fears we hide. And He does not turn away.

Christ's compassion is not generic. He meets real people with real struggles. Today, remember this simple truth: **Jesus sees you, and He cares.**

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for seeing me completely and loving me still. Help me bring my hurts and fears into Your presence rather than hiding them. Give me the peace that comes from knowing I belong to You. Amen.

Day 3 — Keep Believing

Key Verse:

“Do not fear; only believe.” — Mark 5:36

Reflection

Imagine Jairus waiting while Jesus stopped to help someone else. His daughter was dying, and every moment mattered. Then the news arrived: “Your daughter is dead.”

It was over.

But Jesus looked at Jairus and told him not to fear, but to believe.

Sometimes God's timing feels painfully slow. We pray, but the situation seems to get worse. We ask God to intervene, but the phone call comes anyway. We wonder whether God heard us.

Jairus learned that Jesus was not late.

That does not mean God will always answer our prayers with the outcome we desire. He is not a vending machine, and faith is not a way to control Him. God remains our loving Father, whose wisdom is greater than ours.

Even when we don't understand, we can cling to Christ. He has already accomplished our greatest rescue through His death and resurrection. Because Jesus lives, our ultimate hope is secure.

Application

Today, identify one situation where you are tempted to give up. Bring it to Jesus again. Pray simply: **“Lord, help me keep believing and trusting You.”**

Day 4 — Mercy Has a Mission

Key Verse:

“Have mercy on us, Son of David.” — Matthew 9:27

Reflection

Two blind men followed Jesus, crying out for mercy. They were desperate, persistent, and unwilling to stop seeking Him.

Their story reminds us that we are dependent upon Christ. We cannot save ourselves. We cannot fix our deepest spiritual problem through our own effort. We need mercy.

And Jesus came precisely for that reason. He came to forgive sins, reconcile us to God, and rescue us from sin and death. His greatest work was not simply healing bodies; it was accomplishing salvation through the cross and empty tomb.

That mercy changes how we see other people.

Jesus looked at suffering people and had compassion on them. He saw them as sheep without a shepherd. We are called to develop that same concern for the people God has placed around us.

Who in your life needs to hear about the hope you have in Christ? You don't have to force a conversation or have all the answers. Simply be willing to listen, care, pray, and speak when God gives you an opportunity.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for having mercy on me. Give me Your compassion for the people around me. Help me notice those who are hurting and give me opportunities to point them toward You. Amen.

Day 5 — Pray for the Harvest

Key Verse:

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers.” — Matthew 9:37–38

Reflection

When Jesus looked at the crowds, He didn't see interruptions. He saw people who were “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

And His response was compassion.

Jesus then told His disciples to pray for workers. But the remarkable thing is what happens next: the disciples who were praying would become the people Jesus sent.

We can sometimes pray for someone to come to Christ while forgetting that God may want to use **us** in that person's life.

The pressure isn't on us to change someone's heart. God is the One who works in hearts. Our calling is simply to be faithful—to pray, love, listen, invite, encourage, and speak about Jesus when opportunities come.

And sometimes it is a marathon, not a sprint. Keep praying for the child who has wandered. Keep praying for the friend who seems uninterested. Keep praying for the neighbor who doesn't know Christ.

God is still at work.

Prayer

Lord of the harvest, give me compassion for those who don't know You. Help me pray faithfully and give me courage to be one of Your workers. Open doors for conversations about Jesus, and give me patience to trust You with the results. Amen.

All In: Trusting Jesus and Sharing His Compassion

Opening Question

Think of a time when you were desperate and had nowhere else to turn. What did that experience teach you about trust?

The Big Idea

Matthew 9 shows us people who came to Jesus in desperate circumstances: Jairus pleaded for his daughter, a suffering woman reached out to touch Jesus, blind men cried out for mercy, and a demon-oppressed man was brought to Him. Each story points us to the same truth: **Jesus sees us, has compassion on us, and is worthy of our complete trust.**

Jairus risked his reputation and position because he believed Jesus could help his daughter. The suffering woman came to Jesus believing He could heal her. When Jesus seemed to delay, Jairus was told, “Do not be afraid; only believe” (Mark 5:36). Jesus ultimately raised his daughter.

But Jesus' mission was bigger than physical healing. He came to forgive sins, reconcile sinners to God, and bring eternal life. His miracles revealed who He truly is—the promised Savior. The sermon reminds us that Jesus is not a vending machine who gives us whatever we request. We pray confidently because He is our loving Father, trusting that His wisdom is greater than ours and that He will always work for our ultimate good.

Jesus then looked at the crowds and had compassion on them because they were “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” He told His disciples, **“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”** (Matthew 9:37–38)

The same Jesus who sees our needs also gives us His heart for people who need Him. We cannot change another person's heart—that is God's work. But we can pray, listen, care, invite, speak about Jesus, and faithfully persevere. Sharing our faith is not a sprint. **It is a marathon of prayer, love, patience, and trust in God.**

Supporting Bible Verses

- **Matthew 9:36–38** — Jesus has compassion on the harassed and helpless and calls us to pray for workers.
- **Mark 5:36** — “Do not be afraid; only believe.”

- **Psalm 50:15** — “Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you.”
- **1 Peter 5:7** — “Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.”
- **Ephesians 2:8–9** — Salvation is God's gracious gift, not something we earn.
- **1 Corinthians 3:6–7** — We may plant and water, but God gives the growth.

Discussion Questions

1. **Which person in Matthew 9 do you identify with most—Jairus, the suffering woman, the blind men, or the crowds? Why?**
2. What does Jairus' willingness to kneel before Jesus teach us about trusting Christ when we are desperate?
3. How do we balance praying boldly for what we want with trusting God's wisdom when His answer is different from ours?
4. Jesus noticed people who were hurting, isolated, and helpless. **Who around you might need someone to notice them?**
5. Who is one person in your life for whom you could begin praying regularly for opportunities to share Christ?
6. What makes sharing your faith feel risky or uncomfortable? How might trusting God with the “harvest” change your perspective?
7. **What is one “all in” step God may be calling you to take this week?**

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for seeing us, loving us, and having compassion on us. When we are afraid, strengthen our faith. When we are hurting, remind us of Your presence and promises. Teach us to bring our needs to You boldly while trusting Your perfect wisdom. Give us Your compassion for the people around us, especially those who do not yet know You. Help us pray faithfully, love patiently, speak courageously, and trust You with the results. Use us as Your servants in the harvest, knowing that You alone create faith and give the growth. Keep our eyes fixed on You, our Savior and Lord. Amen.