

PART III

I believe the Mark account gives you a more succinct, condensed and perhaps cogent presentation with which to summarize. I want to relate these two segments. Remember Mark 4 begins with the series of parables on the subject of faith. What it means to receive the fruit. Beginning with verse 35, our Lord proceeds from a series of lectures to a laboratory exposure. This begins with four miracles. First of all, the miracle of calming the storm. You remember that it is in this paragraph that the disciples asked the crucial question, Who then is this? And that question is answered in the subsequent paragraph. In chapter 5: 1-20 we have the wonderful story of our Lord casting out legions from among the gathering

Verse 21-24 you have first of all the request of Jairus to come because his daughter is at the point of death. Interesting enough these two paragraphs both of which deal with Jairus' daughter are deliberately separated by the writer in order to heighten the climax which comes in this section.

You see it is during the events described in verse 24-31 that Jairus' faith is developed so he is in a position to believe. He says when the servant comes when Jairus "Come here. The daughter was at the point of death, but when the servant arrived here he said "Don't trouble the Master any longer. She is dead." It is simply the human logic as long as there is life, there is hope but she is gone now. Forget it. It is too late. And he says "Stop fearing. Keep on believing." In order to bolster Jairus' faith as well as to develop the faith of the disciples you have this intriguing story of this woman with the issue of blood.

Let me return to Mark 5 for just a moment for this is treated with practical value in the process of disciple building. Verse 25, And a certain woman which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse.. She had the many, many or nothing worse disease. Did you ever have that? Very serious. That's Mark's way of telling you she had had it. She was a hopeless case. But having heard the things concerning Jesus, she came in the crowd behind. She touched his garment. She said, "If I touch but his garment I will be made whole," and straightway the fountain of the blood was dried up. She felt in her body that she was healed of her plague and straightway Jesus perceiving in himself that the power proceeding from him had gone forth turned about in the crowd and said "Who touched my garment?" There is a great deal of humor in the scriptures and this is a case in point. Will you notice the response of the disciples in verse 31. And his disciples said to him, "Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?" "How in the world do we know who touched you?" "Why they've been touching you ever since we left."

My wife and I had to do some shopping in downtown Dallas a few years ago. It was during the Christmas rush and ~~the~~ it happened to be about 5 o'clock in the evening. The downtown area of Dallas is rather congested. You don't have to move. They'll see to it that you move. Your problem is to see to it that you get off at the right store. Now let us suppose that we are going down and being jostled around in this crowd when all of a sudden I whip around and say to you who touched me? What would you say? Most of you would say, "Who touched you? How in the world do we know who touched you?" That's exactly the mentality of the disciples. Now mark it well. Jesus Christ could distinguish between the indiscriminate press of a mob and a touch of faith. Can you? One of the processes of disciple building is developing spiritual sensitivity on the part of your disciples. Developing spiritual discernment.

Your over at the student and a kid's been waiting around for a long time to get this opportunity so he sits down at a little table next to you and says, "Hi. How are things going?" "Great. How about you?" "OK". Conversation languishes a little bit. "Beautiful weather." So you say, "Yeah, pretty weather." "Who do you think will win the series?" "Well, looks like the Braves got it in the bag." This goes on this way. Suddenly you say, "I've got a schedule, buddy, I'm going to have to take off now. Sorry. See you later. OK?" And off you go. And the guy deliberately took the time to seek you out, get you alone ~~st/~~ to start into a conversation and scared to death to even broach the subject and your response in effect is "I've got a schedule."

In other words, if your schedule is not flexible enough to meet the needs of people, then you are not under a workable schedule. You don't have a schedule. You have a straight jacket. If you see this in context, you will see what it is our Lord is doing with the disciples. He is teaching them the answer to the question, Who is this? Why, this is the person who has complete control over nature. Here is the person who has complete control over mental and emotional diseases. Here's the person who has complete control over the physical. And Jairus ~~hears/the~~ here's the person who has complete control over the spiritual, including control over death itself. So that this segment is arranged climactically to develop the disciples' faith. They took the

interested in the development of that faith. In answer to Who is this? This is the kind of person who controls every area of life. After he had understaged for that then we turn in Luke 9 to send them forth.

And you have a major division in the developmental of our Lord with the disciples. You see there in this segment, we see the Lord at work. Now you are going to see the disciples at work and the Lord evaluating the process and developing the people.

Turn then to Luke 9. I want to nail down a couple of principles that I think are paramount in disciple building. Look at verse 1, he called the twelve ~~to give/and~~ together and he brings them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases. I want to note the principle. The first thing our Lord does before he sends them forth is to introduce them to the power available for their ministry. This is crucial. I believe one of the major reasons why God has blessed the ministry of Crusade is that they have followed this principle. They have emphasized the filling, controlling ministry of the Holy Spirit. If you are going to send a person to witness, if you are going to send him out to live, then you better introduce him to the spiritual resources that are available to him. That is not the same as to say that because you told him about the filling of the Spirit that he will need no further exposure to this truth. I am persuaded that ~~any~~ many people are introduced to the controlling ministry of the Spirit and their response to it is, "That's great -- that's what I need" and out they go to depend on the flesh. When they fall flat on their faces, they come back to you and say, "Bring by that filling ministry of the Spirit again, will you?"

Then it is that they really know that they need it after they sometimes made a tragic casualty of their life and of their experience. Then it is that they are ready to receive Him. Our Lord never calls a person to ministry without giving that person all of the dynamic needed to fulfill the ministry. He is ~~not~~ the process of frustrating you. For God has not given us the Spirit of fear or frustration. If you have that you never got it from the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God does

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not bite his nails. And he doesn't give this kind of a ministry to those he calls to serve. God has given to us the spirit of power and of love and of a disciplined mind, Paul says to Timothy.

There is another principle I want you to see because it is wrapped up in verse 1 and also verse 2. That is this. Our Lord in the building of the disciples had clear cut objectives which become transparent when you read the gospel. Someone asked me the other day, "How do you define a leader?" We talk a great deal about leadership. Interesting thing is the word is never mentioned in the New Testament. A leader in the New Testament is not a leader as conceived of by men. He's the servant. And if Crusade ever goes out of the business of engaging in a servant-like ministry, they might as well fold shut. There's only one excuse for Crusade or for any Christian and that's to be a servant. I'm just your servant boy. Just available to God to put me on as a suit of clothes to accomplish his ministry in your life. This is what God is calling you. Do you want to be at the top of the list? Very easy today. There's no competition at the top. All the competition in the Lord's work today is at the bottom. They're falling all over each other. Here's a verse in Proverbs that you ought to commit to memory. It says, "And the gift makes room for the man." The gift man or woman is the person who is not looking for a job. People are looking for him. The man who doesn't have the gift is the man who is looking for the job. One man has twenty people knocking at his door. The other man is knocking at twenty doors. "You got a job for me?"

I want to give you my definition of a leader on the basis of my study not only of the life of Christ but also the ministry of Paul. I believe a leader has two characteristics: (1) A person who knows where he is going. I saw a very interesting cartoon in the Dallas Morning News sometime ago. It was a picture of a crowd disappearing over a hill and this fellow was standing here talking to a friend and said "I've got to go now. I've got to catch up with the group. I'm their leader." I thought to myself what a description of the average person. You ought to study some of the protest movements, some of the reactionary groups in America today. They are filled with a lot of instructional value. You may not care to follow the direction in which these people are moving but the important thing is most of them know where they are going. And the more *they know* their objectives, the more people they have following them. I think many times we have both feet firmly planted in mid-air and we are saying, "Follow me." "Where are you going?" "I don't know but come on along." Most of them are lost themselves without following someone else who's lost. But for a person who says, "We are going this way." Great. Where do you wind up?

The second characteristic of a leader is, and our Lord certainly demonstrated it, as the leader par excellant, is the leader who is able to persuade others to go along with him. I'll tell you something if you promise never to tell anyone. It is my judgment that the average man in the ministry today would go broke if he had to sell shoes. This is why I say to many of the students in the seminary in my judgment you would never get out of this place without going door to door selling to make a living. You knock on a door and the guy opens it and says, "Yeah, what do you want?"

The ministry is the only place I know where the people will pay you to be mediocre. In fact, some of them will pay you better to be more mediocre. One church said to me asking me to give a recommendation. I said, "What kind of guy do you want?" "Well, we don't want anybody who is going to upset the apple cart. We are a very comfortable conventional group here." "Friend, I don't know anybody like that to recommend

to you and if I did I wouldn't recommend them. Any person I would recommend to you would turn that place inside out and upside down." We better not get one." I said, "You're right, Friend." Just want a nice little closed club for Christians where you come every Sunday sit down, soak up the word and go home and watch TV, come back next week to soak up some more of the word. That's wonderful.

They didn't want to do anything with it. A leader is someone who can persuade someone to go along with him. Are you able to infect somebody? How infectious are you? The ability of yours to spread contagion ~~will~~ determine the ability you have to communicate. What we really need are more people with the real disease who are communicable.

Will you look at the objectives of our Lord? First, the objective of providing the power or authority. Secondly, the objective of sending them forth to preach. How much do you know? Not a whole lot. But enough. Preach the kingdom of God Jesus said and then he said unto them the third objective. Take nothing for your journey. What did you say, Lord? Nothing. Nothing. That is right because this was the ~~basic~~ basic principle that was to regulate their life. And that is that they were to go by faith and the taking of nothing was simply an outward symbol of their inward conviction. This whole thing started actually back here with faith. That is what he has attempted to develop at this point and when he comes up here he says "Take nothing."

We don't like that principle. When we try to develop a disciple, the first thing we want to do is give him everything. So we say "Sit down. I'll give it to you. Get your pencil out. Write down the 14 things you do." I remember the first time I went into an inquiry room following my conversion experience and this old boy said here are the 14 things you need to know now. I stood there batting my eyes like this, man. I didn't hear a blessed thing he said of the 14. All I knew was I was forgiven. That was the most wonderful news I could ~~imagine~~ imagine.

This is really what you ought to be doing with people on your campus. The first thing I want to do with a new disciple is to get him trusting God. This gives you just a . In answer to a question I got a few days ago "What was upper most in the mind of Christ in the teaching and training of the disciples?" I think this is it. I think his primary purpose was to get people to trust him. To get them dependent. Here you look at that whole section to see what was involved. They departed. Went throughout the villages preaching the gospel, healing everywhere.

The next paragraph is a very remarkable paragraph in many ways and most of you probably passed over it if you studied it because in this paragraph you have the reaction of Herod. Remember Jesus Christ has been around for quite a while and he had been doing some very remarkable things. But it is not until he sends forth the disciples to preach that Herod ever reacts. It is one thing to have Jesus Christ in the process but it is another thing to have that thing multiply. You can contain one but this thing is exploding all over the place because you see our Lord is engaged in a ministry of multiplication. Not just simply one person witnessing. There are now 12.

Let us suppose you go back to your school or the community where you are working and ~~one~~ you are committed to the idea that you want to get the gospel out. Let's suppose, taking a rough estimate, we have 200 people fired up. They've got character. IBS is over. Exams. Out we go. Through that front gate. 200 of them. All over America. Come back next year to tell what happened. Exciting stories. Over 200

