

Close Encounters

Hope for the Desperate

Mark 5:20-45

Ron Marsh

July 18, 2010

I. Two *different* people and the element of *surprise*

A. A desperate *father*

1. He was a social *elite*
 - a. A man of *power*
 - b. A man of *resource*
 - c. A man of *influence*
2. He had a crisis: a dying *daughter*
3. He was willing to *risk* it all
4. He knew the *kindness* of Jesus but doubted his *power*

B. A desperate *woman*

1. She was a social *outcast*
 - a. Separated from her *home*
 - b. Isolated from her *family*
 - c. Segregated in her *church*

2. She had a crisis: an incurable *disease*
 - a. All human attempts to heal were *futile*
3. She had tried everything except *Jesus*
4. She knew the *power* of Jesus but doubted his *kindness*

♦ Principle: God *deals* with the *desperate*

II. Hope for the *desperate*

A. The love of Jesus in *action*

1. His love has the power to *heal*
2. His love has the power to *reconcile*
3. His love has the power to *restore life*

B. The difficult question:

What about those who aren't *healed*?

♦ Principle: The context of our hope is the *cross* and *resurrection*