



Everyone wrestles with God. We may not doubt if He exists, but we often wonder if He is right. Jesus got questioned a lot. Using the gospel of Mark, we will glean truth from times when Jesus was second-guessed that will help us with our own questions.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by reminding us that *“We don’t like to think about death, but life has a way of bringing up the subject.”* Read **Ecclesiastes 7:2**. What are some ways that people in our culture try to avoid thinking about death or try to hide the signs that death is coming? Why do people do this?

2 ASSUMPTION: Death has the last word. Read **Mark 5:21-23**. What is significant to you about Jairus’ sense of urgency and his beliefs about what Jesus could do? Follow up: Have you ever, like Jairus, been driven by a great need in your life to do something you normally would not do? If so, how did your actions tell others about what you believed Jesus could do?

3 Rick went on to say, *“All Jairus cares about is getting Jesus to visit his house before death does, but his desperation soon turned to exasperation.”* Read **Mark 5:24-34**. How would you have felt if you were Jairus at that moment? Follow up: Are you currently waiting for Jesus to bring about a change in your life or the life of someone you know? What are you learning about yourself and/or about God through the process?

4 *Jesus didn’t just stop to heal the woman; he stopped to reveal to Jairus that nothing is too late for Jesus. And that revelation was about to confront Jairus with a huge decision.* Read **Mark 5:35-36**. If you had been in Jairus’ place, how would you have reacted to Jesus’ words? Do you find them reassuring or frustrating? Follow up: How can we follow Jesus’ example of unhurried ministry that prioritizes making time for people?

5 DECISION: “Why bother?” *We have all had “why bother?” moments. Where are the areas of your life that seem hopeless, where it feels like a stone has been “rolled over”? Follow up: Rick went on to say, “We all know the voice that says things will never change.” How has that voice caused you to ever second-guess Jesus? With that in mind, what encouragement do you find from what Jesus does next (Read **Mark 5:37-40a**)?*

6 DECISION: “Just believe!” *Jesus was making a big ask: to second-guess death itself.* Read **Romans 4:25 and 5:17**. How do these verses show us that Jesus has authority over sin and death? Follow up: Read **Mark 5:40b-43**. What stands out to you the most about how this story ends?

7 CONVICTION: Jesus has the final word...even over death! Rick closed by reminding us that *“To be full of hope sometimes you have to empty the room.”* What voices do you need to throw out of the room today? Follow up: *Don’t allow the voices of a fallen world to drown out the promises of a risen Savior.* Close by sharing some examples of how Jesus’ own death, burial, and resurrection provides hope for us today.

