

# Message Notes

May 28, 2006

Face Time with Jesus: The Call to Faith  
John 11:25-27; Mark 5:35-36; 9:23-24

Pastor Jym Gregory

√ Encounters with Jesus inevitably bring us to a crisis of faith.

√ For Lazarus' sister Martha, an encounter with Jesus clarified her faith.

√ It was Jesus' set purpose that Lazarus should die, thus creating a situation where faith could be tested and refined (John 11:5-6; 14).

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. *Do you believe this?*"

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

√ For Jairus, an encounter with Jesus prompted his faith.

"While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?" Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; *just believe.*"

Mark 5:35-36 (NIV)

√ For the father of the possessed boy, an encounter with Jesus increased his faith.

"...But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us." "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; *help me overcome my unbelief!*"

Mark 9:22-24 (NIV)

√ Jesus does not demand perfect faith, but he does demand faith (Mt. 17:20; Lk. 18:8).

√ The work that God requires of us is to believe in Jesus (John 6:29).

## At Least Two Conclusions Can Be Drawn...

I. **Belief in Jesus is a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ self-risking trust in Jesus himself.**

√ It goes beyond seeing miracles (Lk. 16:31; Mt. 14:31; Mt. 28:17).

√ The "rule" for being in or out of God's Kingdom is whether or not we trust Jesus with a serious, personal continuing commitment (Jn. 3:18; Romans 10:9).

II. **What God \_\_\_\_\_ from us in terms of faith, he \_\_\_\_\_ to us freely.**

√ We are saved by grace through faith that is given to us freely by God (Eph. 2:8-9)

√ "Face time" with Jesus either draws us nearer to him, or it pushes us further away.

Copies of today's message can be downloaded free at [www.cherryhillfamily.org](http://www.cherryhillfamily.org). Also available by request on your card & ready Monday. Suggested donation: \$1-tapes, \$2-CD. Questions??? Call 217.546.4818