# A Tale of Two Faiths

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### Matthew 9:18-19

"While he was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' And Jesus rose and followed him, with his disciples."

### Matthew 9:20-22

"And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his garment, I will be made well.' Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well."

### Matthew 9:23-26

"And when Jesus came to the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, 'Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. And the report of this went through all that district."

#### Structure of the Passage

A. Ruler's Request (9:18-19)

Belief (9:18)

Movement (9:19)

B. Woman's Restoration (9:20-22)

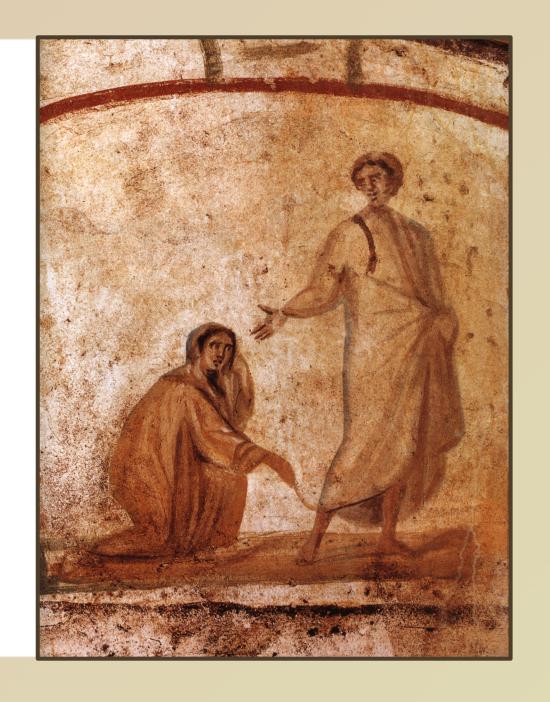
Belief (9:20-21)

Miracle (9:22)

A. Girl's Resurrection (9:23-26)

Unbelief (9:23-24)

Miracle (9:25-26)



#### A Tale of Three Faiths?

Matthew provides us with three examples of faith in this passage:

- 1. The synagogue ruler has nearly perfect faith;
- 2. The hemorrhaging woman has an imperfect faith; and,
- 3. the crowds that gather to mourn the death of the little girl have no faith at all.

## The Daughter's Imperfect Faith

- 1. Hesitant Faith
- 2. Ignorant Faith
- 3. Superstitious Faith
- 4. Blemished Faith

#### What Is Worthy Faith?

God is not honored simply by the...

- 1. Quality of our faith; or,
- 2. Quantity of our faith.



