

# THE STORY OF JAIRUS AND HIS CHILD

**MARK 5: 21-43**

A dialogue script for a beginning reader to read with an accomplished reader  
Just read it together, or go all out and make costumes and put on a play.  
It is also fun to read this into a tape recorder.



## **Focus:**

Three-sound words with short a

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This is a Bible story that a student and a tutor can read together. The tutor can take the roles of **Jairus, the Narrator and the woman**. The student takes the role of **Jairus' child**. The lines scripted for the student are beginning phonics words. Feel free to read with some dramatic flair. One reading comprehension question is included as part of the script. The student can answer in his/her own words when you get there.

## Sight words:

You I on my a  
the that with of

## Short "a" words:

bad	dad	can
fan	nap	tap
back	dab	jam
had	man	sat
Matt	tax	glad

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**Narrator:** Jairus was the ruler of a synagogue (a synagogue is a place where Jewish people worship). His child was very sick.

**Jairus:** You look very sick. I'm worried about you. How do you feel?

**Child:** Bad, Dad, bad.

**Jairus:** You look so hot. Take a nap. I will fan you while you sleep.

**Child:** You can fan. I can nap.

**Narrator:** The child sleeps for a long time while the father patiently fans. After a while the father taps on his child's back to wake the child up. He wants the child to eat.

**Jairus:** Tap, tap, wake up, dear child.

**Child:** Dad, you tap on my back?

**Jairus:** Yes, I want you to wake up and eat a little. Here are some yams with a dab of jam.

**Child:** I had yams and a dab of jam.

**Jairus:** I know I gave you some this morning, but have some more. You need food to keep you strong. I'm so worried, nothing we do seems to make you get any better. No doctors can cure you.

**Child: The man can.**

**Jairus:** What man are you talking about?

**Child: The man that sat with Matt the tax-man.**

**Jairus:** Oh, you mean Jesus. You are right, his disciple Matthew was a tax-man. He collected taxes. Nobody likes tax collectors. They cheat people. A lot of important people I work with don't like that Jesus sits and talks with people like Matthew who have led bad lives, even though people seem to lead better lives after they get to know Jesus. Everybody says that he cares about all kinds of people and makes sick people better. Do you think Jesus can make you better?

**Child: That man can!**

**Jairus:** Okay, my child. I don't think the other synagogue rulers will like it, but I will go to see Jesus and ask him to make you all better.

**Narrator:** Jairus goes out and finds Jesus. He begs Jesus to come and heal his child. Jesus is eager to help and heads towards Jairus' home where the child is getting sicker and sicker. Jairus tries to hurry Jesus along, but many people are pushing up to see Jesus. The crowd slows him down.

**Jairus:** Please hurry, Jesus, my child is very sick. I'm afraid my child might die before you get there.

**Narrator:** Suddenly Jesus stops and announces that someone just touched him. The crowd is confused. They tell him that there are many people pushing and bumping and touching him in this crowd. Jesus insists that someone touched him in a special way. He wants to know who did. A woman steps up. She is very frightened.

**Woman:** Please don't be mad at me, Jesus. I have been bleeding for many years and no doctor can help me. I thought if I just touched the hem of your robe, that I would be healed. Oh please don't be mad at me for touching you without asking. But listen to this, Jesus, my bleeding has stopped!! You have healed me!

**Narrator:** Jesus was kind to the woman and told her not to be afraid. He told her that she was healed because she believed in him and in his power to heal her. Jairus is happy the woman was healed, but he was getting more and more worried about his child.

**Jairus:** Please hurry, Jesus. My child is very sick.

**Narrator:** As they get near to Jairus' house, Jairus' neighbors run up to him.

**Neighbors:** What took Jesus so long to get here? Can anybody tell us what took him so long? You, tell us what took Jesus so long. (Direct this question at your student)

**This is a reading comprehension question. Acting as someone in the crowd, the student can say why Jesus took so long getting to Jairus' house.**

**Neighbors:** Well, it is too late now. You don't need Jesus anymore, your child has died.

**Narrator:** Jesus told Jairus not to be afraid. Jesus asked Jairus just to believe. Jesus went into the house. Jairus and the neighbors stayed outside waiting anxiously.

Suddenly the child ran out!

**Child:** Dad, dad,

**Jairus:** My child, my child! You are not dead! Jesus healed you! Let me hug you!

**Child:** I am glad, I am glad!

**Narrator:** Jesus came out of the house and told Jairus to give the child some food.

**Jairus:** What do you want to eat, dear child?

**Child:** Yams and dabs and dabs of jam!

**THE END**