

Radical Encounters – Talitha Koum

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Mark 5:21-43
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Reflection & Discussion Questions

Sometimes how we experience Jesus handle things in our lives feels like malpractice

*If you are honest, when is a time that you have felt like Jesus practiced negligence in your life?

The faith Jesus responds to never looks exactly the same in those who encounter him

Read and discuss Mark 5:21-25 and 35-43 (NIV)

²¹ When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. ²² Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. ²³ He pleaded earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.” ²⁴ So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. ²⁵ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years...

³⁵ While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?”

³⁶ Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

³⁷ He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep.” ⁴⁰ But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child’s father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum!” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). ⁴² Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³ He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

*What is surprising or interesting about this encounter?

*How do you imagine Jairus was feeling as Jesus stopped to heal the woman? What do we notice about the way Jesus handles these encounters?

*What do we see here about faith and how Jesus responds to it?

Jesus didn’t demand that Jairus show the same faith that he had seen in others

He responded to the faith that Jairus had.

*How have you seen Jesus be gentle with the faith that you have?

*What unassuming or ‘mustard seed’ expressions of faith can you celebrate in your life?

*What do you sense the Spirit is telling you about your faith?

“Liturgy for Nights and Days of Doubts” comes from *Every Moment Holy Volume I* by Douglas Kaine McKelvey