

SERMON NOTES: TWO MEANINGFUL MIRACLES

Series: Luke: The Gospel of Knowing For Sure

Date: November 15th, 2015

Text: Luke 8: 40-56

Theme: Finding Assurance for our struggling faith

1. A Desperate faith

a. The Plight of a _____

b. The Plight of a _____

2. The Providential Program of God

a. A healing touch from _____ faith

b. A delayed _____: Our timetable is not God's

c. From healing to being raised from the dead: A stretching of a man's faith against all _____

3. Our most desperate Need

a. Acknowledging our own desperate need for _____

b. Jesus brings _____ and _____ into our fallen human condition as we turn to Him in faith

SMALL GROUP HOME WORK:

These questions will help prepare you for your Small Group session this week – so bring your answers with you to your Small Group meeting.

RELATE:

Can you think of a time when you came to God out of desperation and your faith grew as you witnessed God provide?

REFLECT:

1. Read Luke 8:40-42a and consider this man, Jairus. What was he going through? How does he feel as he approaches Jesus? Have you ever had an intense struggle involving your children?
2. Read Luke 8:42b-48 What strikes you in these verses? Why does the woman seek to touch "the edge of his cloak?" Why does Jesus ask her to admit that she is the one who touched Him?
3. Consider Jesus' statement in v.48. Where did this woman's faith come from? Was it something she conjured up on her own? Consider Romans 10:14-17; Discuss what Hebrews 11:1-6 and Hebrews 12:1-2 teach about faith.
4. How was the announcement in v.49 a challenge to Jairus' faith on a whole greater level? See Hebrews 11:17-19. Could Jairus have reacted in anger at the delay as Jesus dealt with the woman? Why didn't Jesus rush to help Jairus knowing the girl was going to die? Consider a similar situation with Lazarus in John 11:17-27.
5. What does Jesus' delay in helping Jairus teach us about the timing of God's program in the development of our faith? Read Hebrews 11:39-40
6. The word for "well" in v.50 is the same word that appears in v.36 in describing how the demon-possessed man was "healed". In both cases the word can also be translated "saved" pointing a greater miracle of spiritual salvation. What does Luke want us to understand about the relationship between fear and faith in salvation in v.50?
7. Why do you think Jesus charged the parents not to say anything about the miracle in v.56?

RESPOND:

What challenges to your faith are you experiencing right now? How can this study help you to better understand what God is accomplishing in your life through it?

We only seem to grow significantly in faith when our resources are exhausted. Why is it so hard to grow in faith otherwise?

What do these scriptures tell us about growth in faith in the midst of difficult circumstances? 1 Pet.1:6-9; James1:2-4

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