

“He had healed many people that day, so all the sick people eagerly pushed forward to touch him. And whenever those possessed by evil spirits caught sight of him, the spirits would throw them to the ground in front of him shrieking, “You are the Son of God!” But Jesus sternly commanded the spirits not to reveal who he was.” Mark 3:10-12 NLT

lectio // Mark 3:7-12

This is Jesus going to work everyday, this is how God works “while it’s still light.” Jesus takes his disciples out to the lake and tells them to prepare a boat, because he knew the crowds were coming. He knew that word had gotten out - all who are sick, all who are oppressed, depressed and possessed by evil COME OUT and be healed! He actually did what he said he would do, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.” Mark 2:17. Like I referenced in an earlier post, I don’t hang around a lot of suffering people. I spend almost 99.9% of my time with “healthy” people. Yeah, and most (like me) consider themselves to be righteous, mostly because they go to a church or they know a few Bible verses and can throw out christian phrases. Jesus put himself, and his disciples, right in the thick of people; sick, clingy, crazy folks and long-lines of pure humanity at its worst! Would you PURPOSELY put yourself there? I have been in unbelievable, over-my-head situations but I did not CHOOSE to be there, it just happened! So, what if I woke up this morning, called a few friends and had them meet me at CHOC, walked the halls praying for doctors and nurses, then laid hands on Covid-19 patients in ICU (if they’d even let us), then mosey’d on over to Main St in Santa Ana where there’s a wide, garden-variety of homeless, high-on-drugs, psychotic, schizophrenic, destitute people and just started loving on them, praying for them and kicking demons out of their high-jacked homes? Yeah, that’s what God does when he works! Holy cannoli, that’s what Jesus did!

Dad,

No wonder I love READING these accounts of how Jesus lived and marvel at the question of WWJD. But it’s really different to think that I should, I could be doing even a fraction of that! I feel like praying a one-percent-prayer. You know, that I could just be a tiny bit braver than I am. That I could believe just 1% more than I do to step out in faith to be Jesus to the truly sick and hurting. I would feel a little bit more brave to go along with friends, to encourage each other. Who would go with me? All of my excuses just sound like dis-belief when I see how Jesus worked and I know your Spirit lives within me to do things that are impossible without you.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root