

“Jesus got into the boat again and went back to the other side of the lake, where a large crowd gathered around him on the shore. Then a leader of the local synagogue, whose name was Jairus, arrived. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet, pleading fervently with him. “My little daughter is dying,” he said. “Please come and lay your hands on her; heal her so she can live.” Mark 5:21-23 NLT

lectio // Mark 5:21-43

A story within a story, Mark layers these together highlighting a number of points. One, Jesus has power over all things. In this situation, he has power to heal, but more than that power to restore reputations and societal deficits where people have been wronged and taken advantage of. He also had power over death, “shhhh, she’s just sleeping,” and the mourners laughed! Two, Mark is showing this amazing and fascinating ability for Jesus not only to be born God and man (John 1:1) but to LIVE his entire life - INCARNATIONAL. Jesus continued to enter INTO the human experience when it was at its most difficult, most desperate. He intentionally took the guys to pig island for an unforgettable boat ride into insanity. He stopped mid stride, on his way to help a child, to reverse twelve years of pain and suffering in a woman who did NOT want attention, only relief. He barged into a WAKE which had already gathered with the whole neighborhood to grieve with a mother who lost her most precious gift. He PURPOSELY entered into exorcism, medical mysteries and gut-wrenching death. You want to be like Jesus? Do you want to live like Jesus? Be incarnational! Take the light and life of Christ where only fools and saints would venture in! Where you go, the Holy Spirit (comforter, friend and power of God) goes as well. You say, “but I’m not God.” And Jesus says, “yes, but I am! And I am with you.”

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I don’t know where this is all going and I don’t know what I am doing - at all! It makes it much more humorously humiliating to think that at my age I am SUPPOSED to know what I’m doing. But, my sin and my failures, mis-steps and mis-judgments remind me constantly. I feel something big happening in my soul. I am, once again stirred by the boldness of your words through these writers and I see that I really do not follow them, which means I really don’t believe them. I want to believe (not just acknowledging) - help me in my unbelief (of not doing).

contemplatio

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