

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

2 Kings 4:18-37

Psalm 123:1-4

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (v2)

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 5:21-43

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love & peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Mark 5:21-24a, 35-43

²¹When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; & he was by the sea. ²²Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³and begged him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come & lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, & live.” ²⁴So he went with him. ...³⁵While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” ³⁶But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” ³⁷He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, & John, the brother of James. ³⁸When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping & wailing loudly. ³⁹When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion & weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.” ⁴⁰And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, & took the child’s father & mother & those who were with him, & went in where the child was. ⁴¹He took her by the hand & said to her, “Talitha cum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!” ⁴²And immediately the girl got up & began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, & told them to give her something to eat.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. How many connections can you find between the Old Testament reading & the Gospel? Hint: consider themes, actions, language, grammar, plot, similarities, opposites/inversions etc.
2. How is this story like the Raising of Lazarus (*John 11:1-45*)? Again, how many commonalities can you find?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Jesus’ teachings & miracles-& his resurrection appearances!- often involve food (*cf. Luke 24:34-42*). (Follow the cross references from this gospel story in your study Bible to get a taste of this.) What do you think makes this so? Is Jesus just a glutton (*Matthew 11:18-19*)? Think about your own experience of eating with others.
4. It’s often said that Christians need not fear death. What did Jesus teach (v35) this crowd? In what way do the following confirm this saying? *See v39 above; Matthew 27:52; John 11:11, 13; Acts 7:60, 13:36; 1 Corinthians 11:30, 15:6, 18, 20, 51; 1Thessalonians 4:13-15; Revelation 14:13*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. If others ask you about Jesus, especially if he’s *really* who he seems to be, what examples can you give from your own life, or your congregation, for people raised to new life in their own everyday lives? Be specific & concrete, folks don’t need glittering generalities & vague allusions.
6. Review Martin Luther’s Large Catechism: IV Baptism, paragraphs 30-37, 44. Luther mentions the essential role of faith (*cf. v36*). What things in your congregation can you point others to that give a sure, external thing (as opposed to an inner sense, feeling, or thought) for their faith to cling to, as surely as Jairus clings to Jesus’ personal words & presence?

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Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

07.04.21

Series: Power of God

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

To Raise the Dead

To us, death is the end; to Jesus, it's only sleeping

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: He took her by the hand & said to her, “Talitha cum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!” (v41)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

I will boast gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. (2 *Corinthians* 12:9)

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