

“Why all this commotion and wailing?”

A. Opener: *Created in God's Image*

B. Sermon in a Sentence:

Our Compassionate Creator delights in re-creating us into His image.

C. Summary of Mk 5:21-24 & 35-43 (Other accounts: Matthew 9:18-26 & Luke 8:40-56)

Jairus, a Jewish synagogue leader, pleads with Jesus to come to his home to save his dying daughter. As they walk across the village of Capernaum together, a desperate older woman secretly reaches toward Jesus's cloak for healing of a chronic bleeding condition, interrupting their mission. After Jesus recognizes and restores this beloved *daughter* of God's, messengers bring news of Jairus' young child's death. Just as Jairus is losing heart, Jesus asserts that he need not be afraid and that this is the very time to trust in the Lord even more. They move onward.

Because of Jairus' community prominence and influence, a crowd of opportunists show up to wail loudly at his home in a façade of family support. Jesus' question about the basis for this exaggerated grief is meant to contrast the difference between God and humanity's views of what is possible and what is important.

D. TODAY'S BIBLE PASSAGE: Mk 5:21-24 & 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.

[Mk 5:25-34 summary: Jesus heals the woman with the 12-year bleeding disorder hiding in the crowd.

[KEY VERSE: Mk 5:34 *“Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”*

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.

E. LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- **Where is Jesus calling you out of fear and into courageous faith?**

- **How is God re-creating His image in you?**

LIFE APPLICATION STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What was one of your greatest disappointments?
2. What is your view of death? Why?
3. How do you think this healing affected Jairus and his wife? This little girl?
4. When have you experienced Jesus calling you back into life?
5. How does our giving up the illusion of control open us to God's peace?
6. What areas of your life are you struggling to entrust to God? Why?
7. Pray and seek the Lord's power to revive any dead or dying areas of your spiritual walk with him.

The Road to RECOVERY

(from Celebrate Recovery by John Baker & Pastor Rick Warren)

Realize I'm not God; I admit that I am powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and that my life is unmanageable.

Earnestly believe that God exists, that I matter to Him and that He has the power to help me recover.

Consciously choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control.

Openly examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.

Voluntarily submit to any and all changes God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.

Evaluate all my relationships. Offer forgiveness to those who have hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others when possible, except when to do so would harm them or others.

Reserve a daily time with God for self-examination, Bible reading, and prayer in order to know God and His will for my life and to gain the power to follow His will.

Yield myself to God to be used to bring this Good News to others, both by my example and my words.