

## **TWELVE YEARS OLD // Luke 8:40-56**

*From the series, The Gospel of Luke*

In this passage, Jesus performs two healings--one seeming to interrupt the other. Jairus, a ruler in the synagogue, implores Jesus to heal his dying daughter. On the way to his house, Jesus encounters the woman with the issue of blood, who is healed when she touches the hem of his garment. Although word comes to Jairus that his daughter has already died, Jesus continues to his house and heals his daughter. What ties these two stories together? Both demonstrate that God is sovereign, and His timing is impeccable. In fact, Jesus is always on time.

Four observations about Jesus' timing:

### **1. Jesus is not on your schedule (vs. 40-42a)**

The crowd was waiting on the lakeshore for Jesus to return from across the lake. Jairus, with his urgent need, was among them.

We cannot summon Jesus to comply with our timeline--we must be on his schedule.

### **2. Jesus is all about divine appointments (vs. 42b-44)**

Jesus knows your schedule and he knows each need; he will meet you on his schedule at the divine appointment (cf. John 4, the woman at the well)

- a. Jairus had an urgent need--he was helpless
- b. The woman had a long-term problem--she was hopeless

Never miss an opportunity to be with Jesus.

These stories are united by a timeline--twelve years ago, one family was celebrating the birth of a daughter while elsewhere a woman was grieving the beginning of an illness. Jesus intersects these stories at just the right moment.

### **3. Jesus is able to multi-task (vs. 45-48)**

Jesus could be seen as distracted here--he sets off on one mission, but is interrupted by another. This is not a distraction. In God's sovereignty, these stories were meant to intersect.

One man's interruption might be another man's intervention.

### **4. Jesus is never late (vs. 49-56)**

Jairus could have been bitter that Jesus did not come straight to his house. From our limited perspective, it can seem like God is uncaring or indifferent when he doesn't work on our schedule. But, he is always on time, never early, never late.

As Galatians 4:4 indicates, for Jesus, timing is so much more important than time. He acts "in the fullness of time."

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Are you waiting on God to act in your life? How can we avoid trying to put him on our schedule and instead get on his schedule?
2. When in your life have you seen God work in what turned out to be perfect timing? How does this give us hope for his future interventions in our story?
3. What are some practical ways in which we can "never miss an opportunity to be with Jesus"?