

Mount Olive Lifeguide
A closer look...
July 1, 2018

Mark 5: 21-24a, 35-43: 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. Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. 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." So Jesus went with him. 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?" Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." 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. He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha koum!*" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up"). Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. ⁴³He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

1. What are 5 questions that many people have when they consider the topic of death, especially their own death?

2. Why does death receive less focus today than it did in Jesus' day or Luther's day?

3. Jesus raised 3 people from the dead during his ministry: Jairus daughter, the widow of Nain's son and Lazarus. What progression do you notice in the 3 miracles?

4. If you were Jesus, who else (other than "everyone") might you have raised from the dead besides these 3 people?

5. Why do you think Jesus didn't raise any of these people from the dead?

6. Jairus had a solution for his problem. Jesus had a different solution. Can you think of any examples of when your solution didn't match God's solution?

7. What do you feel is the great test of your faith: Your death, or the death of someone you love? Why?

8. Consider again the 5 questions people have about death. Which of these 5 is the most important? Which would you say is the second most important one?

9. Finish this sentence: "The day a child of God dies is the _____ of his life. (Psalm 116:15, Philippians 1:21)