

Waiting, Weeping, Wondering
Luke 8:49-56

Luke was written by a medical doctor. We have two other accounts of this little girl's illness and death – from Matthew and Mark – and all of them are accurate, but I want to hear what Dr. Luke has to say about this miracle. In Colossians 4:14 Paul refers to Luke as “the beloved physician.” When Dr. Luke told us of the woman with the issue of blood, he tells us she'd been bleeding for 12 years “and could not be healed.” Mark tells us that “she had endured much at the hands of many physicians and had spent all she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse” (Mark 5:25-26). Though all Scripture is inspired, each writer has a natural bent and tendency that adds color to what he writes. Interestingly, even Dr. Luke doesn't say much about the girl who dies, but focuses his attention on the father, Jairus. He had one child, this little girl who is unnamed, but is very sick. We have in this text a picture of all of us who lean on Jesus.

I. The person who loves Christ must learn to *wait* on Jesus.

“And as Jesus returned, the people *welcomed* him, for they were waiting on him” (Luke 8:40). Few there are who wait for him, few there are in any town, in any congregation, in any household who wait for him. But, this is certain, -- *the Son of God comes to all who wait for Him*. For **all** who wait.

- **“Wait for the LORD**; Be strong and take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD” (Ps. 27:14).
 - **“Yet a little while** and the wicked man will be no more; And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be *there*. But the meek will inherit the earth and be delighted (Psalm 37:10-11).
 - **“But they that wait upon the LORD** shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint” (Isaiah 40:31).
 - “It is good that you should hope **and quietly wait** for the deliverance of the LORD” (Lam. 3:26).
 - “Turn to God: observe kindness and judgment and **wait for your God continually**” (Hos. 12:6).
- Jairus was the “ruler of the synagogue” which means he was a leader of the religious assembly. He had everything anyone in this world thought valuable, but the one thing he loved, he was losing. Jairus learned to wait as one in the crowd; he learned to wait as Jesus paused to help others; he learned to wait while every fiber in his being seemed to scream “Hurry!” Wait with patience.

II. The person who loves Christ must know to *weep* doesn't mean a lack of hope.

Someone came as Jairus waited and said, “Your daughter has died; don't bother anymore” (v. 49). Think for a moment how Jairus felt. The overwhelming sorrow and sadness that his daughter died. “In Christ **you greatly rejoice**, even though now **you suffer sorrow** in all kinds of trials (I Peter 1:6). Both rejoicing and suffering are in the present tense. It is possible to rejoice in Christ with weeping. The word “suffer” (Gr. *lupeo*) means “great emotional or mental distress.” It is the same word used of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. “My soul is overwhelmed with suffering” (Matthew 25:37). The Psalms remind us that there are dark moments when we are overwhelmed; but there's hope.

III. The person who loves Christ must be aware that a day of *wonder* is coming.

Jesus said, “Child, arise” (v. 55) and “her parents were amazed” (v. 56). This day of wonder may be a healing that occurs (as it is in Jairus' case), but the most amazing day is the day of resurrection. “An hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and arise” (John 5:28).

(A). On this day of resurrection, everything that is wrong in this world will be made right.
 (B). On this day of resurrection, every good thing destroyed will be altogether restored.
 (C). On this day of resurrection, everyone who has been separated in sin will unite in love.
 (D). On this day of resurrection, every tear you have in this life will be wiped away by Him.

Wait on the Lord. Weep with rejoicing. Wonder is coming.