

# Abiding In The Unknown

ATPI? - This week's message focuses on the need for us to exercise faith and trust in God DURING THE DELAYS and disasters, so we receive the blessings God has for us.

Script - Hab. 2:2-4

- A. The story of Jairus and the healing of his daughter (Mk. 5).
  - 1. Jairus comes to ask Jesus for help (Mk. 5:22-23).
  - 2. Jesus is delayed by the many request along the way (Mk. 5:25-34).
  - 3. Word comes that the situation is hopeless now because the child has died (Mk. 5:35).
  - 4. Jesus overhears this communication and tells Jairus to keep believing (Mk. 5:37).
    - 5. Jesus does not allow anyone to follow him except his 3 disciples (Mk. 5:37). He does not want doubters to tag along for the show.
    - 6. After Jesus says the girl is sleeping the crowd laughs at him and then he puts them out (Mk. 5:37-40). So we have to put our fears aside and trust by faith that he will provide for us.
  - 7. Jairus's daughter is brought back to life so Jairus received what he wanted.
  
- B. Does the Bible say that patience is needed by God's people?
  - 1. Rom. 12:2; Gal. 6:9; Rom. 8:25; Eph. 4:2; Phil. 4:6; Isa. 40:31; Gal. 5:22; Heb. 10:36-38; James 5:7-8; Ps. 40:1; Heb. 6:12; James 5:8; Rom. 8:18; Mt. 24:3-8, 13; Lk. 21:8-19).
  - 2. Biblical stories that illustrate the importance of patience and the consequences
    - a. Abraham wasn't patient waiting for the promise son and what pain that caused in his family and throughout history.
    - b. Saul was rejected by God because he wasn't patient enough to wait for Samuel to come and sacrifice (1 Sam. 13:7-14).
    - c. Mary Magdalene was patient and ended up getting to see Jesus after the resurrection (Jn. 20:1-18).
  - 3. Prophecy talks about how patience is needed by God's people (Rev. 15:2; Gal. 3:7, 29).
  - 4. The reason for delays and the need of patience (Mal. 3:1-3; Isa. 1:25; Acts 14:21-22).

How does this parallel what is going on today?

- 1. Jairus had an urgent need. There are many today that have urgent needs with the pandemic holding on so long.
  - a. Finances
  - b. Children in school; not learning as much on zoom.
  - c. Emotional needs of people staying home, adapting to a new way of life.
  - d. Teen suicide are on the rise.
  - e. Extra medical care; cancer pre-screening, glasses, etc. etc.
- 2. Help is delayed for a long time, just like with Jairus waiting for Jesus to get to his home; This pandemic is dragging on and on. We get impatient. There are many Biblical examples of this;
  - a. Abraham and the promised son.
  - b. Saul making the sacrifice instead of Samuel (.
  - c. Jesus' delay in returning.
  - d. Moses delay for 40 years. How did the Children of Israel appreciate that for an additional 40 years
  - e. Wait on the Lord. With God a day is like 1000 years.
- 3. Just like the servant that came to tell Jairus to trouble the Master anymore others around us might

tell us not to trouble God anymore because he is not listening to our prayers. We have to stop listening to their counsel and keep going in the direction we were going. Believing by faith that we can trust in what he has promised and not be overcome by hopelessness and discouragement. Job 13:15.

4. When Jesus arrived at the house he had to face scorn for his beliefs that the girl was not dead but sleeping and he put them all out so they would not influence what was going to happen by their unbelief. (Hopelessness).

C. Appeal - What can we learn from this story? What is God's counsel?

1. Accept that unexpected delays are part of what is predicted in God's word.
2. Just as Jesus' presence with Jairus was helpful to him, so it will be in your life. Lean on His word and stay close to Jesus.
3. How are you going to grow your faith in God and His word during this pandemic? Do you have a plan? I Pet. 1:13 Gird up the loins of your mind against the negative thoughts and those that might tend to doubt.
4. Keep your eyes on the prize, keep on the pathway that you have chosen and establish your hearts and faith in God through it all.
5. There were many delays along the way but those that persevered did finally get the blessing that they were hoping for.

Stories that illustrate that it takes patience to work through the delays to get the desired prize.

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