

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Unknown Interruption” Mark 5:35-43 April 20, 2019

Getting Started

Life is a series of “unknown interruptions” requiring constant consideration and consolidation of whether or not the interruption is important enough to cause redirection. However, what if the “unknown interruption” was seen not as an inconvenience, but an intervention, could we see the “unknown interruption” differently?

If you're like many people, any interruption in your day or schedule is seen as an annoyance due to someone else's failure that is now putting a serious crimp in my life and schedule. I know where I want to be and what I want to be doing, and I don't appreciate people messing it up! But what if it was God who was 'messing' with me, trying to intervene in my self-centered plans to show me who He is and what He wants from me? Can you remember and share with us about a time when God 'messed' with you in order to bring about a better life for you?

Going Deeper:

A SPOKEN INTERRUPTION: *“While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?”(Vs.35)*

Principle: **Faith CONQUERS Fear:** *“But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, Do not fear, only believe” (Vs. 36)*

Anyone with a child can imagine the overwhelming sense of loss and grief that would have risen up within Jairus with the words that his daughter was dead. Knowing this was starting to happen, Jesus forcefully tells Jairus to stop fearing and keep believing! Jairus came in faith and saw Jesus heal a woman no one could heal! Now Jesus says, 'Keep believing that I can heal your daughter too.' We should never use the words, “It's too late.” What person(s) has God used in your life to immediately challenge your attitude when you start to feel defeated or feel that it is too late for God to do something about a terrible situation?

A SURPRISING INTERRUPTION: *“They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly.”* (Vs. 38)

Principle: **Truth COMFORTS in Tears:** *“And when he had entered, he said to them, Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.”* (Vs. 39)

So many Christians live fatalistically, thinking that much of life is predetermined, and there is really no room for supernatural things to happen. This whole crowd of people were weeping and wailing because as far as they knew, the girl was dead and everything was doomed. But into this seemingly hopeless situation, Jesus steps up and says ‘You’ve got it all wrong!’ **Read Hebrews 4:12-13.** Share with us about a time when you feel completely defeated, but then the word of God showed you a new revelation that opened your eyes to a new reality.

A SUPERNATURAL INTERRUPTION: *“And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was”* (Vs. 40)

Principle: **Hope CALLING one to Hear:** *“Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.”* (Vs. 41)

Right now, your life may feel more like death. You may be struggling, depressed, going through the motions, feeling all hope is gone. But to you, Jesus says, ‘Arise!’ Get off that bed and get out of that mindset! You are in the presence of the One who has conquered sin, death, and the grave. **Read 1 Corin. 15:57-58.** You are loved by God! Stay strong in His love. What joyous work has Jesus asked you to do? What service to others in His name?

Take Away: The “X” that marks the spot is the place where you think “X” means it’s over, finished or complete, but when the “X” is redefined, resurrection becomes reality!