

LIFELINES IN STORMY TIMES: Help in Hopeless Storms

LUKE 8:40-56

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #LifeLines

When Life Feels Hopeless, Jesus Offers Amazing Help.

1. Approach Jesus with your “too **lousy**” Problems (40-42, 49).
2. Trust Jesus with your “too **long**” Problems (42b-48).
3. Believe Jesus with your “too **late**” Problems (49-56).

Luke 8:40-56

Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. ⁴¹And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored him to come to his house, ⁴²for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

As Jesus went, the people pressed around him. ⁴³And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. ⁴⁴She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. ⁴⁵And Jesus said, “Who was it that touched me?” When all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!” ⁴⁶But Jesus said, “Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me.” ⁴⁷And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. ⁴⁸And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

⁴⁹While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.” ⁵⁰But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well.” ⁵¹And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. ⁵²And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, “Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping.” ⁵³And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴But taking her by the hand he called, saying, “Child, arise.” ⁵⁵And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat. ⁵⁶And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened. (ESV).

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Think of a time when you needed help? Did you feel like you needed to be “good enough” to get help from God? How does this story remind you that “all the fitness he requires is that you feel your need of him?”
2. What is the significance of Jesus calling the chronically sick woman “daughter?”
3. **Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.** Some problems are “too late.” How does this resurrection preview in our passage, and knowing that Jesus will bring future resurrection, give you hope in your darkest times?

Quote for the Week. . .

by Wayne Grudem



“Christians do not suffer accidentally or because of the irresistible forces of blind fate; rather, they suffer according to God’s will... Therein lies the knowledge that there is a limit to the suffering, both in its intensity and in its duration, a limit set and maintained by the God who is our creator, our savior, our sustainer, our Father.”

Wayne Grudem, 1 Peter, Eerdmans, 1988, p. 184.