

# INTRODUCING JESUS

LUKE 8:40-56

Community Group Study Guide  
Week of March 3, 2019



MOSAIC BOSTON  
LOVE. JESUS. SIMPLE.

This week we looked at Luke 8:40-56 where Jesus heals a woman and a young girl. We're told that the young girl is the daughter of a Jewish man who was a leader of a synagogue. The girl was 12 years old, and had suddenly fallen deathly ill. On the other hand, we're told the woman has been suffering for 12 years with an issue of bleeding. This condition would have stricken her ceremonially unclean and forced her to stay on the fringes of society. There is a sharp contrast between the two, both in the urgency of their need, and in their social standing. The young girl was from a prominent family and needed help immediately or she would die. The woman was an outcast with an illness that was chronic, but not life threatening.

These distinctions make Jesus' actions profoundly shocking. While on his way to heal the young girl, Jesus stops to heal this woman. As a result, the young girl dies before Jesus arrives at her house. It's hard to imagine Jairus' fear and frustration as the time slipped away, but through all these events, Jesus teaches us many vital lessons.

**First**, we learn that saving faith in Christ often grows out of desperation. Sometimes our physical circumstances need to crumble beneath us in order to humble our hearts and open our eyes to the desperation of our spiritual circumstances. **Second**, we learn that God's timing is perfect. In times of suffering it might feel like God is late, but only because our perspective is limited. Death did not stop Jesus from saving this young girl, and by showing up after her death, He only proved more clearly why we can trust him. He is good and his sovereign power will work all things together for our good. **Finally**, we learn that the only thing anyone needs to come to Jesus is a need that produces faith. Prominent leaders and outcasts can both come in faith and be saved, not based on their merit, not even based on the strength or perfection of their faith, but based on Jesus Christ being the object of their faith. Both Jairus and the woman came to Jesus with weak and imperfect faith, but what saves them is the power and perfection of the one in whom they had placed their faith.

## DISCUSSION GOALS

### Head

To understand God's timing is perfect.

### Heart

To trust that God is able to work all things together for the good of His people.

### Hands

To patiently endure trials and look at our present suffering through the lens of God's promises and proven faithfulness.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Membership or Baptism:

Contact [admin@mosaicboston.com](mailto:admin@mosaicboston.com) to sign up for our next membership class or learn more about baptism.

### Mosaic JP:

Please keep Mosaic JP and other faithful Boston church plants in your prayers. If your CG would like to serve Mosaic JP together on a Sunday please contact [andy@mosaicboston.com](mailto:andy@mosaicboston.com).

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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### ICE BREAKER

What is the most crowded place you've ever been?

#### Read Luke 8:40-56

- What initially stood out to you as we read this passage?
- Why do we often wait until moments of desperation to come to Jesus for help?
- Where do we see signs of both strong and weak faith in both Jairus and the woman? What does this teach us about coming to Jesus with faith?
- The woman had suffered for 12 years before being healed and the young girl goes through death before Jesus raises and heals her back to health. What can we learn from this about our suffering, and about God's purpose and timing?
- Have you seen God's purpose worked out in your life after seasons of suffering, or feeling like God was absent or late?
- Jesus responds graciously to our imperfect faith, but he also then corrects and challenges our faith to grow. How do we see Him do that in this story? How has Jesus challenged or corrected you in order to grow deeper in your faith?
- Have you ever witnessed God miraculously heal someone?
- Experiencing something miraculous can be very encouraging to our faith, but how can we also find encouragement from God's word when God chooses not to heal someone?
- What comes to mind as you think about this story in light of Jesus' own death and resurrection?