Our scripture this morning comes from Luke 8 starting at verse 40. While you’re finding that, A father brought home two guests after work. The family didn’t have guests very often, so this was a new experience for the young son. He helped his mother set the table with the nice dishes, saw as she placed the silverware on the table, and watched his father pass the food to the guests first. When the time came for dessert, the boy brought the first piece of pie and gave it to his father, who passed it to a guest. The boy brought the second piece of pie and again watched as his father gave it to a guest. The little boy leaned to his father’s ear and whispered, "It's no use, Dad, Mom’s cutting all the pieces the same size."

**Luke 8:40-42 40**So it was, when Jesus returned, that the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him. **41**And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus’ feet and begged Him to come to his house, **42**for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. **Luke 8:49-56 49**While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue’s *house,* saying to him, “Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher.” **50**But when Jesus heard *it,* He answered him, saying, “Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well.” **51**When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. **52**Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, “Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping.” **53**And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. **54**But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, “Little girl, arise.” **55**Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given *something* to eat. **56**And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

The story of Jairus is told in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Jairus was the ruler of the synagogue. When the Temple was destroyed, synagogues became a place of worship and gathering for the people. We recall that the religious rulers were hostile to Jesus and His teaching. Recall that the blind man in John 9 was cast out of the synagogue because he believed in Jesus after Jesus healed him. None of the hostility stopped Jairus. Notice in verse 41, Jairus fell down at Jesus feet and begged Him to come. His daughter was at the point of death. He was desperate! He forgot politics – he forgot pride – he forgot his position of importance. He begged Jesus to come and heal his daughter.

Jairus comes from the Hebrew word Jair, meaning light. The name Jairus means God enlightens. To come to Jesus and beg for healing, God enlightened Jairus for sure.

We know the story. Jesus went with him. While on the way, a woman reached out from the crowd, touched Jesus garment and was healed. In Mark 5:34 Jesus tells her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well.”. We know that the crowd was pressing in on Him. Others were bound to have brushed Him. Some sick probably got their hand on Him and were not made well. But when she touched Him, something was different and power went forth from Him and she was healed. Jesus made sure that this woman understood that her Faith in Him had made her well.

As this incident winds down, people come with bad news. Pick up verse 49 – While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue’s *house,* saying to him, “Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher.”. Do not trouble the Teacher. It’s over. It’s hopeless. Your daughter is dead.

There are many situations that appear hopeless in this world. We have a child on drugs, a loved one who’s lost, a job that’s shaky, health that’s failing, a marriage that’s dissolving. We pray and pray. Like Jairus, we beg. Things look hopeless. The world is eager to say – stop praying. Can’t you see that nothing is changing? Can’t you see that that lost loved one will never be found? Can’t you see that that family situation will never be resolved? Give up! Do not trouble the Teacher!

Look at verse 50 - But when Jesus heard *it,* He answered him, saying, “Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well.” Jairus is stunned. The word of his daughter’s death threatens to shatter his belief. It rocks his faith. But listen to what Jesus says – Do not be afraid; only believe. He’s saying, “Jairus, don’t be discouraged by what the world is saying. Don’t you be discouraged by those voices in your head! Don’t lose faith. Keep believing!”

Jesus has that same message for us today. Keep believing. Don’t stop praying. Too often, when things don’t seem to be going the way we believe they should go, we give up! We stop believing that Jesus can change our home, our health, and our heart.

Jesus is saying – Keep praying for resolution. I may not heal this person as you understand it, but Be still and know that I Am God. I may not change someones heart while you’re alive, but Be still and know that I Am God. I may not bring revival to this nation this year, but be still and know that I Am God. Jairus held his faith and his daughter was healed.

I encourage each of you today – continue to trouble the Teacher! Pray without ceasing. Believe that His answer is the best answer. Bring to Him all your burdens. Pray until you see His answer, then trust that His answer is perfect. Do not be afraid; only believe.

Now I don’t know who needed this message today, but God laid this message heavy on me this week. I’m hopeful that whoever He is speaking to, that you have ears to hear.