

Living, Active, And Conscious Faith!

Different types of Miracles of Jesus recorded in the Gospels (about 37 of them) remind us of Jesus' mission and ministry as the Redeemer and Savior. Through these miracles, Jesus demonstrated in practical ways the powers of the Kingdom of God, which is the kingdom of love, peace, justice, service, mercy, and forgiveness. Mark's Gospel, even though it is the shortest of the four Gospels recorded more miracles than other Gospels. Today's Gospel, Mark 5:21-43, reports two of those miracles- the healing of Jairus' daughter and the healing of the woman afflicted with hemorrhages for 12 years. In each of these miracles, we see the power of faith that is living, active, and conscious. Jesus told the woman with hemorrhage after her healing, "*Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction.*" Likewise, to Jairus whose daughter was sick, "*Do not be afraid; just have faith.*"

These two miracles remind us of the importance of faith in our relationship with God. Faith is a gift God has given to us as his children. Our faith in God helps us to feel and recognize the presence of God in our lives even in the most difficult situations we face. It reminds us of the good plan and purpose God has for us his creatures as our first reading today from the book of Wisdom (1:13-15,2:23-24) emphasizes. Faith helps us to entrust everything we do unto the hands of God and to be able to see the hand of God in everything that happens to us.

St. Paul in today's second reading (2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13- 15) invites us, "*Brothers and sisters: As you excel in every respect, in faith, discourse, knowledge, all earnestness, and in the love we have for you, may you excel in this gracious act also*" This invitation is for us to hope and pray that our faith becomes a living, active, and conscious. It is only through the eyes of faith that we can see in the occurrences of God's love and favor our miracles. Hence, these miracles are meant to strengthen our relationship with God and to help us to recognize and appreciate his presence in our lives. Amen.