

Mark 5:21-43

O. INTRO:

*Paul Comegys, I really want more time with him...I won't turn this service into a memorial for Paul we will do that this afternoon.

*But I have to say; I don't like the timing of his departure.

*River had him for all 25 years of our life as a church family...I had him as a friend for 30 years, how much time would be enough?

*More.

*How much more?

*A little more, always a little more.

*One of the great challenges of life is the challenge of timing.

*Rarely does God's timing seem to align with ours.

*Timing is about control.

*We get frustrated with the stoplights, esp when we are in a hurry.

*We get frustrated with delays at airports, or when people are late.

*At a much more urgent level...waiting on a lab report, or a medical treatment to work in our body.

*Delays in getting married, or being able to have a child, or a job advancement.

*Or on the other side...not a delay but things beyond our control that we were not ready for...things we would have preferred to be delayed...like Paul going to heaven.

*Timing is a matter of trust.

*Trust is not merely resigning ourselves to the fact that God is boss and we can do nothing about it...trust implies more than simply being "over powered," it is about relationship.

*Its one thing to be "surrendered" to his timing like a prisoner held at gunpoint.

*That is the resignation factor, where we have no choice; he has all the power...so we become surrendered to his will in a sort of apathetic fashion.

*But learning to actively and joyfully trust his timing because we are convinced he is really smart and really good...now that is quite another thing; isn't it?

*It is not something that just happens on its own, magically and right when we need it...if we are not learning to love God now, we are not preparing to trust him in regards to his timing.

***Let's go to Mark, Chapter 5.**

Mark 5:21 When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake.

*Jesus is acting with a distinct purpose that would **not** have been obvious had you been there with him...it might have looked random...crossing back and forth across the lake.

*At times, his timing would have looked terrible...crossing the lake right when a life-threatening storm came up.

*But on reflection it is clear all his movements and their timing...were perfect.

*He ministered on the west side of the Lake, traveled across just a storm hit (and used it in the lives of his disciples, and our lives), then he went to the east side of the Lake...set the demoniac free.

*Then got back in the boat and traveled back to the west side and encountered a man named Jairus as well as a woman who had been ill for many years.

*Back and forth, back and forth...what was he up to? Was there purpose in the timing of all his movements? Yes, there was.

22 Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet 23 and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live."

*A synagogue ruler meant he was a lay leader in local Jewish community
-He was a prominent, respected, wealthy person.

*He tossed away all pride and dignity and threw himself at the feet of Jesus.

*Because the need was urgent, the timing was urgent...he has no time for niceties and he is not in the mood for the sometimes silly games of human protocol.

*His little girl is "dying" right now...Jesus needs come right now.

24 So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him.

*Notice Jesus doesn't even speak here, he goes straight into action.

*Seems like Jesus is right on the desperate man's schedule...moving with the same urgency.

25 And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26 She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his

cloak, 28 because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” 29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

*Again, a person who has suffered terribly comes into Jesus' life.

*This woman had been bleeding for 12 years...probably anemic, perpetually ceremonially unclean...unable to participate in public worship....and now financially destitute.

*Instead of getting better she was worse...

*This due to 1st century medical practices...no telling how much she had suffered at the hands of the physicians in addition to her illness.

30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?” 31 “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’” 32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

*This is not magic; it's her faith reaching out to Jesus.

*But why is she trembling with fear?

*She had hoped she could touch his clothes (not even his physical body)...maybe she would be healed and he wouldn't know about.

*How could he know if someone brushed up against him in a crowd like this?

*She knew she was not supposed to touch anyone in her condition let alone a Rabbi...as she was in an unclean state and her touch would make him unclean.

*But in her desperation she touched his outer garment

*Jesus immediately knew that healing power had flowed and he stopped and turned towards the crowd and asked "who touched me?"

*Mark wrote that he was "trembling with fear"

*This is no metaphor...she was physically shaking with fright.

*We are seeing a theme here...the past three weeks...fear.

*The disciples feared Jesus after he rebuked the storm.

*The pig herders feared Jesus after he took authority over the demons.

*Now this woman is trembling with fear.

- *Often pictures of Jesus that have been painted or portrayed in film.
- *Show him as anything other than someone to be feared...
- *Looks like someone who would spend his days reflectively sipping lattes and speaking just below a whisper..."Jesus, can you speak up? Its loud in here." (I really like lattes by the way, so no slam intended)
- *But the Biblical picture of Jesus is a brilliant man, a man of great discipline and physical stamina...walking great distances, fasting, praying all night.
- *A man who spent his first 30 years in physical labor in the family business.
- *A man who intimidated demons and kings and generals.
- *A man the power brokers wanted to kill...because they feared him and what he would do.
- *If Jesus walked the streets of Wichita today...the two most common emotions he would evoke would no doubt be fear and love.
- *Only love could enable a person to get past the fear.
- *Stop...be this woman for a moment...a perpetual outcaste, physically and spiritually unclean...no doubt smelling of disease.
- *She has learned to fade into the background, to stay away, or blend in.
- *Her desperation forces her into a crowd where she hopes to touch Jesus and quickly disappear...she is looking for a stealth healing...no one has to know.
- *I can imagine her heart is already pounding, her body coursing with adrenaline.
- *Then...he calls her out in the crowd...her heart must have stopped.
- *She fell to his feet...the second person that had done that in this one narrative.
- *First a leader...now an outcaste.
- *She "confesses" what she has done...maybe she readies herself for a rebuke/
- 34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."**
- *No rebuke, she hears these loving words from Jesus.
- *"Your faith has healed you...go in peace."
- *This word peace; is not just a "peaceful feeling" it is a word that indicates "well being because of relationship with God"

*She got more than she hoped for.

*Meanwhile, Jairus had to be stressed to the max...

*"Why is he talking with this woman? My daughter is in urgent need."

*Then he hears the dreadful words...

35 While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?"

*Now, be Jairus...he has just gone numb at the words...the crowd noise turned into a dull buzzing sound.

*Something like this happened to me this past week(and some of you)...my mind became numb, unable to process what I was hearing.

*Maybe he feels like he is going to faint...then what is that sound, someone is talking to me...

***Jairus...Jairus... Don't be afraid; just believe."**

*Jesus is brilliant.

*When someone is flooded...you give very direct, simple instruction.

"Jairus...look at me...don't be afraid, trust."

*There it is again...The antidote for fear is faith.

37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly.

*When he arrived he encountered mourners who had been hired...waiting for the little girl to die.

*They were hired to promote the idea of widespread sadness over the loss...but most didn't really care.

*Weird thing...still around...in fact a company in Dallas, Texas employees trained funeral mourners.

39 He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep."

*Jesus knows she is dead, but why does he use this language?

*We will see why in the way he speaks to the girl, not as if she were dead but as if she were asleep.

*Death implies permanence...sleep is something that is temporary.

*Death is not a permanent condition anymore than a good nights sleep is...not when Jesus is involved.

*First, he must deal with the ones who have no place there and do not need to witness what he is about to do...because they are too busy playing games with precious things...like people's grief.

40 But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

*The fake mourners stopped their play-acting and laughed at Jesus when he said she is merely asleep.

*He put them all out...I really wish I knew how this happened.

*Did he merely look at them and they slithered away in shame or fear.

*Did he sort of "caste them out" with a word like he cast Legion out of the demoniac?

*He was not tender with people who played games with sacred things...truth, life, death, children, the grief of a parent.

*He was tender with the parents...he took them in to the body of their little girl.

*He was tender with the little girl...he took her hand and spoke to her...

***"Talitha kum!"* (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!").**

*This is a term of endearment like a mom would have for her child, and the word he used was a word for waking someone up from sleep..."**Honey, its time to wake up now**"

***And the little girl stood up and walked around.**

*By the way...our Paul is fully alive and fully awake, right now.

*If you cannot imagine a man as alive as Paul being dead...no worries...he is not dead, he is alive.

CONCLUSION:

***Let's go back to the theme of Timing**

*This woman bled for 12 years, why did she have to wait so long to be healed?

*The little girl who died...Jesus was just a few minutes late, why did he stop and speak to the woman.

*Why put the parents through all that shock and grief?

*We know now...it was for his glory...and the day will come when all his timing will make sense to us.

*But can we learn to embrace his timing now?

*His timing can be confusing. Exasperating. It can seem like its all wrong.

*Timing, they say is everything.

*I would have to agree...but the phrase assumes something..."We have control over timing."

*And certainly in some things we do...but the fact that we have control over so many areas of timing can deceive us into thinking we are in control in some ultimate way.

*In the field of psychology "heuristics" are the simple, efficient rules people use to make decisions.

*Without them life would be impossibly cumbersome.

*So, for instance this morning...you did a vast number of things without actively thinking about them.

*As an example...You didn't say to yourself..."Let's see, put hand on knob, open drawer, now there are a number of items there, which one is best to pick up...toothpaste. Now I will need to make a decision about what to put toothpaste on...what do we have here...."

*You walked in the bathroom...thinking of everything except brushing your teeth...and walked out of the bathroom having accomplished a series of tasks that led to "clean teeth."

*This is heuristics.

*Now the problem is when this helpful reality is over or wrongly applied.

*These mental shortcuts are applied in complex situations in life...like decision making, relationships, determining what is true, valuable, what is real.

*So heuristics are helpful in many instances because they don't over load our mental processor with too many meaningless details.

*But when we become confident of our ability to move through life exercising control over a number of smaller events...and doing this automatically, unthinkingly.

*We are at the same time training ourselves to believe (wrongly) that we are ultimately in control all of our lives.

*There have been a number of leaders in high-level positions who have fallen prey to this.

*They have trusted their instincts, over and over and have been successful over and over.

*Then when the stakes are very high...their instincts, now automatic fail them and they have a moral, ethical, legal, physical...crash.

*And what is most devastating is their years of success in trusting their instincts and living on self-confident auto-pilot...has taken them to the heights from which a fall ruins them.

*Better if only they had learned to be suspicious of their own hearts and minds and reflexes early on when a fall had less severe consequences.

*This, on a side note...is why parenting is so important...helping children see "cause and effect" when the effects of a bad cause are simple parental punishment versus jail time or divorce or some other serious loss.

***My point:** we have trained ourselves over time to believe we are in control of timing.

*And in many ways we are

*But we must be wise enough to know the difference between what we are responsible under God to choose and what we must trust God with...and to not confuse the two.

*This is one reason we come to God together in worship and re-orient ourselves to reality...week after week.

***We are responsible to choose, but he is God...we must learn to trust.**

***And to truly trust...we must learn to love.**

*We are responsible for the choices before us and at the same time we must continue to turn to God never trusting ourselves completely...

*Two ways we tend try to control timing: one an emotional attempt and another a more rational one.

1. Emotional: Matt. 6:27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

*We, unthinkingly, believe that we can worry enough to have some impact over outcomes.

*I know, its not rational...but neither are we...we continue to try worry our way into some kind of control.

2. Rational: James 4:13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." 14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.

*We believe we can plan enough to have control over all outcomes.

*Planning is good...applauded in the Bible...but this is not about planning but about assuming control over the future apart from God.

*So the big question...how do we become people who trust God with his timing?

*Is it possible to not just be God's prisoners of war and to actually learn to trust him?

*Yes...but it will involve learning to love God not merely fear what he can do to us.

Heb. 2:14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

*The power of death that the devil holds is not the ability to decide when we die...but it is specified here as "fear"

*Fear because of a lack of control.

*Jesus destroyed this power (fear) by his own death.

*He had control over the timing of his own death...when it was the right time...he allowed himself to be captured and killed...then he released his own Spirit at the right time.

*Then he came back from dead...in death's final defeat.

*So a trust relationship with Jesus is the path to freedom from fear (and its control).

*Look at the famous Ps. 23

Psa. 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

*What is the key to not fearing evil in the valley where death's shadow looms?

*God is with us, protecting and leading us...relationship with him is the key.

*Learning to Love is what leads to trust replacing fear.

*One of the problems with learning to love God (or others) is that we have been trained to believe..."love happens or it doesn't" "love comes mysteriously and leaves just as mysteriously"

*This line of thinking is the cause of untold grief...because love is the result of investment.

*We love Paul because of his investment in us, and our investment in him.

*Investment implies time, effort, commitment, loyalty...all of that.

APPLICATION:

*Is it possible, realistic to grow in this kind of confident love for God?

*Such that love replaces fear over time?

*Such that we are able to grow in our ability to actually trust his timing in our lives...not just tolerate it?

*Do we just hope it happens and for the lucky few it does...but the rest of us...not so much?

*Is it something that happens magically or automatically?

*No, we all know from experience this is not true.

*Remember two weeks ago the need for training to trust?

*Training can be a loaded word, it can seem to be in opposition to grace but it is not.

*Training is our cooperation with God's grace.

2Pet. 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

*Bottom line...God has given us all that we need to live the life he has for us.

*Important to get this...he has given us access to his power to live the kind of life he designed us for.

1:5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*What is the very reason that we are told to make "every effort?"

*Well it is the fact that he has given us access to his power which is all we need to live the life he has called us to.

*Because this power, this relationship is real and available...our efforts actually matter.

***Make every effort** to add to your faith...because God has given power such that your efforts matter...they will work!

*Don't be confused here.

*We cannot add to what has been done for us in terms of earning our own salvation.

*This is not about becoming a Christian this is about growing as a Christian...in faith and love.

*Clearly, our effort is key in accessing and applying his power he has made accessible to us.

*There is a list of qualities here that are beyond the scope of our discussion this morning...but the final one is love (Agape love)

*Bottom line here...the norm should be growth in "increasing fashion"

*The result of this growth is a "productive and effective" knowledge of Jesus.

*What does that mean?

*Means this is not just spiritual mumbo jumbo...not words with no real life substance.

*Not spiritual talk that never makes it to the street, or the office, or the battlefield, or classroom, hospital room, or funeral service.

*This is a spiritual reality that is a part of every aspect of reality.

*Productive and effective knowledge of Jesus means we are changing in ways that matter, ways that impact our lives in real and important fashion now.

*This is not just about salvation as "eternal life insurance" but a different kind of life now.

*The Lord was not random in any of his timing...in fact every bit of his timing was in his control and perfect in its application.

***Rom. 5:6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.**

*We can submit to his timing because we have no choice...

-Resign ourselves to mind-numbed apathy.

-Living like God's POW's

*We can refuse to submit to his timing

-We can shake our fist at the heavens, curse and cry out against him when his timing is all wrong

-But it will not give us control over God or all of our circumstances...he is still stronger...and this approach will make us bitter, never better people.

***We can learn to grow in our love for him.**

*It doesn't require that we always like his timing, or the results of waiting on him...but it will mean that our trust for him will be active not passive, joyful not miserable.

*We can and we must grow in love for God...and that will lead to trust...including trusting him with timing.

*I watched this happen in Paul for 30 years.

*He suffered terribly in many ways in his life.

*But he "made every effort to add to his faith"...he exerted his own will in cooperation with God's grace and he was a changed man becoming more trusting, more peaceful every year.

*His love for God was real and growing...and it impacted his ability to trust God's timing in real and tangible ways.

*Do you believe this kind of change is real? Is it relevant? Possible? Necessary?

*It is all of those things.

*Do you pray believing that it matters...not just in feeling better but it actually matters if you ask God?

*God is not honored when we say or think "Your timing is fixed and I can do nothing but resign myself to it."

*He is honored when we talk with him about things that matter to the both of us...that we ask him to move, ask him to engage our lives in the areas that are of concern to us.

*Our choices, our prayers, our effort matters...he is not playing with us...

*We can and we are becoming people with a productive and effective knowledge of Jesus.

*A knowledge born of relationship that impacts every aspect of our lives.

*A love relationship that is preparing us to trust his timing...not with apathy, not with anger...but with confidence.

*He is patient...he is not unkind with our struggles, our immaturity.

*But we do not have to stay immature...we can grow...we want to grow...don't we?

SMALL GROUP NOTES

Mark 5:21-43

Intro:

*What are some "timings" in your life that just seem to be all wrong?

-Something is not happening fast enough.

-Something is or has happened too fast.

*Why is timing so important to us and why do we become so frustrated or anxious or angry we do not have control of life's timing?

Read:

Mark 5:21 When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. 22 Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet 23 and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." 24 So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25 And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26 She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." 29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. 30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" 31 "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" 32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34 He said to

her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." 35 While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?" 36 Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe." 37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39 He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." 40 But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. 41 He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha kum!*" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). 42 Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. 43 He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Discuss:

1. The past three weeks "fear" has been a reoccurring theme. Recall and discuss the different ways that this theme has played out.
2. Fear and lack of control are often tied together...why is this true and how has this been a part of the fear displayed by the different characters in the Biblical narratives?
3. The woman went twelve years before she was healed of her illness. What are some reasons you can think of that God would have waited that long to heal her? Think in terms of themes such as "her sense of helplessness and need opened her up to Jesus."
4. It might have seemed cruel for Jesus to allow the little girl to die just to "make a point."
-However, his entire life and ministry was about "making a point."
-What was that point? How did his timing here help make that point?
5. Talk about the implications for our fear and lack of control over our death and the death of those we loved for Jesus statement "The child is not dead, only asleep."
6. If you were personally touched by Paul's life and death, how can you find comfort, hope, and vision in this statement as you consider the loss of your friend?

Apply:

1. Are you convinced that you can choose to grow in faith and love and learn to trust God's timing more and more? What makes you believe this?
2. Read the following passage:

2Pet. 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to

brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Theologian Wayne Grudem wrote that....there is a part of the application of redemption that is a progressive work that continues throughout our earthly lives. It is also a work in which God and man cooperate, each playing distinct roles. This part of the application of redemption is called sanctification: Sanctification is a progressive work of God and man that makes us more and more free from sin and like Christ in our actual lives.

3. How this quote tied in with Peter's statement that we are to "make every effort to add to our faith..."?
4. How is our effort a cooperation with God's grace and not opposition to it?
5. What does that mean practically in your own life this week?

The Gospel of Mark



*"For even the
Son of Man
did not come
to be served,
but to serve,
and to give
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ransom for
many."*

Mark 10:45

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Mark 5:22-23 Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.”

Mark 5:24 So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him.

Mark 5:25-29 And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

Mark 5:30-33 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?” “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’” But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

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Mark 5:37-38 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly.

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“Why all this commotion and wailing? The
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“Talitha koum!” (which means, “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”).

Timing is everything

heuristics

"Simple, efficient rules we use to make decisions"

***We do not control all of the timing of our
lives.***

***We are responsible to choose, but he is
God...we must learn to trust.***

1. Emotional

Matt. 6:27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

2. Rational

James 4:13-15 Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.”

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Heb. 2:14-15 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Psa. 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2 Pet. 1:3-4 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

2 Peter 1:5-8 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Rom. 5:6 You see, at just the right time,
when we were still powerless, Christ died for
the ungodly.**

**We can learn to grow in our trust in God by
growing in our love for God.**