

St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN

The First Fifteen

The Spiritual Life and Evangelization Commission has asked that all parish meetings begin with a program we are calling "The First Fifteen." We are asking all parish meetings to begin with a few minutes of faith sharing. One person in the group reads the reading provided below (which corresponds with this next week's weekend readings) and everyone is given an opportunity to reflect and share on the readings. The questions below are simply a way to stimulate your reflection. You can use them or anything that strikes you about the word of God.

Sunday, July 1, 2018

Gospel: Mark 5: 21-24, 35-43

When Jesus had crossed again in a boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him, and stayed close to the sea. One of the synagogue officials, named Jairus, came forward. Seeing him he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him saying, "My daughter is at the point of death. Please, come lay your hands on her that she may get well and live." He went off with him, and a large crowd followed him and pressed upon him.

... While he was still speaking, people from the synagogue official's house arrived and said, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the teacher any longer?" Disregarding the message that was reported, Jesus said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid; just have faith." He did not allow anyone to accompany him inside except Peter, James and John, the brother of James. When they arrived at the house of the synagogue official, he caught sight of a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. So he went in and said to them, "Why this commotion and weeping?" The child is not dead but asleep." And they ridiculed him. Then he put them out. He took along the child's father and mother and those who were with him and entered the room where the child was.. He took the child by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum," which means, "Little girl, I say to you arise!"

The girl, a child of twelve, arose immediately and walked around. At that they were utterly astounded.

He gave strict orders that no one should know this and said that she should be given something to eat.

Questions to Ponder:

1. Have you ever been in a situation that you needed God to step in and take charge and "cure" the situation? How did that turn out?
2. Why do you think Jesus only took some of the apostles and the child's parents into the house with Him? Why did people ridicule Jesus when he said she was only sleeping? And why did He ask that no one be told of this healing?
3. Do you see areas in your life, family, our church that need a healing from Jesus?

End with the "**Glory Be**" "**Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**"