**June 28, 2015 “Hearing, Valuing, and Seeking”**

based on Mark 5:21-43

5th Sunday after Pentecost.

* Modern interest in faith healing
* Gospel borders on spectacular with a healing and a raising of Jairus’ daughter
* Miracles not impossible for a God who could raise Jesus from death, but ‘why did Jesus perform these miracles?’ The underlying reason seems to be ‘to show us the power of faith!

Jairus and ‘bleeding’ woman had faith enough to approach Jesus

What are the components of such faith?

1. We have to hear the story, listen to the Good News, even study it. Faith is lifeless unless we come to know and accept the witness of the Scripture. Happens through regular worship, personal devotion and prayer, sharing with other Christians(Bible study, discussions). Jairus and hemorrhaging woman had heard and came, despite risks.
2. We have to know ourselves. Too many have low self-image, don’t realize how God considers us each valuable, important enough to send only-begotten son. God calls us personally through Sacraments. God wants each to be saved and have a relationship.
3. We have to seek the Lord. God doesn’t force way into our lives, we have a choice, a freedom to come to God, or try it on our own. We bring child to be baptized, pick up bread and drink from cup, it’s our decision. Jairus and woman sought out Jesus. So must we!

The story has been told, each of us should feel addressed by God, we now need to act on the gift, accept the invitation. May we all take the ‘challenge’ to be a person of faith!