

Sermon Notes, Proper 8B

June 27, 2021

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Readings at:

[https://www.lectionarypage.net/YearB\\_RCL/Pentecost/BProp8\\_RCL.html](https://www.lectionarypage.net/YearB_RCL/Pentecost/BProp8_RCL.html)

## **Intro**

Song

(Pentecost Zoom) On pilgrimage we walk at the speed of love.

Morning walks

-Harold

-Garden

-Michelle

The idea of “walking at the speed of love” comes from the book, “3 mile an hour God”.

By Kosuke Koyama (Japanese Theologian, born in pre World War II Japan)

Ch 1: “God walks ‘slowly’ because he is love. If he is not love he would have gone much faster. Love has its speed. It is an inner speed. It is a spiritual speed. It is a different kind of speed from the technological speed to which we are accustomed. It is ‘slow’ yet it is lord over all other speeds since it is the speed of love. It goes on in the depth of our life, whether we notice it or not, whether we are currently hit by storm or not, at three miles an hour. It is the speed we walk and therefore it is the speed the love of God walks.” (p.8)

## Today's Gospel

In today's Gospel---despite the urgent pace of Mark's narrative (immediately this, and immediately that), we see Jesus walking at the speed of love.

"Sandwich Style" (commonly found in Mark)--a story within a story.

In today's Gospel Jesus shows us that, when we walk at the speed of love, we make room for the needs of others--and the call of God--to interrupt our plans. When we walk at the speed of love, we make room for more than one story.

Story begins: Jairus (leader of synagogue's) sick daughter

Story is interrupted: Woman w/the flow of blood (unclean, impoverished)

First Story Continues: Jairus *dead* daughter

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## CONCLUSION

If the stories in the 1st several chapters of Mark's Gospel: Jesus drives out unclean spirits (Jesus is Lord of the spiritual realm)

And the story from last week's gospel (Ch. 4) --Jesus calms the storm (Jesus is Lord of the physical realm, Lord of Creation, Lord of wind, rain, Lord of the elements)

Then perhaps Today's healing "sandwich" stories--(Jesus is Lord of the physical body, Jesus is Lord of sickness and health, but ALSO Jesus is Lord of Time)

If Today's Epistle--an Invitation to Generous, non-anxious stewardship of money

Then Perhaps Today's Gospel--an Invitation to Generous, non-anxious Stewardship of Time and Attention

If, in exhorting the church in Corinth to make a generous offering to the Church in Jerusalem, Paul reveals that there is ENOUGH money for everyone

and in Feeding of the Multitudes Jesus reveals that there is ENOUGH food for everyone

Then Perhaps in today's healing the Woman with the Flow of Blood on his way to heal Jairus' daughter, Jesus reveals that there is ENOUGH time for connection with everyone, too

It does not seem beyond the realm of possibility that the Eternal God holds Time in His Hands...causing it to expand and contract.

When we walk at the speed of love.

When we embrace interruptions to our schedules and plans, not as mere annoyances or impediments to achieving God's purposes, but rather as integral pieces in God's gracious plan-- as God-given opportunities to connect, to love, to heal

What might it look like for YOU to walk with Jesus, to "walk at the speed of Love," this week?

Song: We walk at the Speed of Love

Silence