

- *Hey*
 - *Desperation is a powerful thing.*
 - *Makes us do things normally wouldn't do.*
 - *Can change us and make us more powerful - a mother lifting a car off her child*
 - *Can either give us focus or completely take our focus away.*
 - *YOLO*
- *You*
 - *How often is desperation connected with death?*
 - *Ultimately, it all comes around to death and loss and our striving to delay it or overcome it.*
 - *In the Superbowl today, one team will become desperate toward the end and do things they wouldn't normally do, like throw a Hail Mary! Just think about the name itself.*
- *Look*
 - *Today's story from Mark features two people who are desperate. There is an A-story and a B-story that comes in and interrupts the A story.*
 - *A-story*
 - *A father. A leader of the synagogue. His daughter has not long to live. She is very sick.*
 - *So far, Jesus and the religious leaders have not seen eye to eye. He is crossing a boundary for the sake of his daughter.*
 - *But Jesus agrees to come! Then the desperation is softened, but not for long. Large crowd pressing in on him. Then the B-story provides a huge delay.*
 - *B-story.*
 - *Another desperate person. A woman who has been deprived of her life for 12 years, and losing her life all the while. She is unclean, and she does something desperate. Goes through the middle of that crowd of people, shoulder to shoulder people, contacting who knows how many people, just so she can do this desperate thing. She believes. Her fear is not as great as her faith. Her desperation has made it so.*
 - *But this delays the A-story. Jesus stops all progress towards the girl. The woman comes forward and tells the "whole" story. How long did that take?*
 - *A-story*
 - *It is too late. His daughter is dead. Death has won again.*
 - *But Jesus demonstrates a connection to God seldom seen in the Bible's story. Not since Elijah and Elisha has this happened. He goes in and overcomes the ultimate opponent, overcomes the curse of Adam's disobedience, rewrites the rules.*
- *Do*
 - *Jesus comes into a desperate world.*
 - *A world that behaves like it's standing in 8 feet of water wearing cement shoes.*
 - *Hunger, sickness, death will do that. A perception of scarcity will do that.*
 - *But Jesus was preaching a return to the garden. A restoration of all that had been lost, a return of God as the king of our lives.*

- *Jesus overcame the curse of Adam. He lived a life just like we do. Jesus died as all people do. But he reversed it. And Jesus calls us to stop living desperately.*
- *We are set free from bondage to desperation. We can live a life that is free in the midst of our losses because ultimately, the losses will be overcome. In the midst of our pain, we can show the world what it looks like to follow and be connected to the source of all life.*