

I understand proper etiquette for texting is you need to respond within 20 minutes or its rude. Considering my infrequent or poor texting, if you send me a text -I will respond- but be prepared to be offended. (I'm not sure I care) Apparently one of the rudest things is if people send you a text, are waiting for a response, can see the indication you're typing but you not send anything. We need to be careful not to get sucked into this culture of instant gratification, instant results, responses, instant answers.

You see a man today heal, apparently due to an immediate plea, immediate action by Jesus. But we don't know, perhaps the man had been praying about his health condition his whole life.

Jesus comes to the region of the Decapolis. Region of 10 cities. Archeological evidence is this was a pagan area, lots gods, idols of Zeus, Artimus, Hercules unearthed there. Still, the news of Jesus reached them, that He could heal. This story of people that Jesus rescues, filthy pagans. They begged Jesus to heal this man; Jesus makes special effort. It seems odd, Jesus takes the man privately, spits on His hands, touches the mans tongue and ears –be open. But why? Why all the ritual? We know Jesus could've just willed it to happen, it happens; just said Ephaphtha, its done. Why does Jesus go through all the ceremony? The finger in the ears, the spit, all this stuff. You know why? I don't know either; but it's there for us to meditate in the text. And what you can see here, which is really quite amazing: Jesus is pleased to deal with each one of us; takes the time to deal with each person differently. He has a wqhole worlds to save and so much time on 1 person. Amazing. He takes each one of us aside from the crowd; gives each one of us what we need. unique work unto you. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one church, but we're different, wdifferent gifts, different sufferings, different lessons to learn.

If you are a parent you know this, you don't love your children, meet their needs the same. Each child is dealt with, handled different, uniquely. And so Jesus deals with each of you. He could've merely spoken and its done, yet He takes time with each one. Knowing exactly what you need; what you don't need. Jesus knows this man is better served with spit on His hands, the fingers and touching the tongue. He also knows what's best for you, what is best for you better than what you think is best for you. The Lord carries you, drags you through this lives in different ways. None of our lives look the same. None of our history, the same. None of our suffering and joys are the same. And Jesus knows it. And He uses it to bless you.

There are times you look at others and think "I wish that was me" or "I'm glad that wasn't me." God handles us in different things in life. We rejoice in

this text, that is how Jesus wants it to be. And everything Jesus is giving you - He is giving to you for your benefit. All the joys. All the sufferings. All the pains. All the lessons. All the gifts. Your life is specially curated by God to give you exactly what you need. Imagine being this deaf man, seeing peoples mouths moving and hearing nothing and your friends come and they're excited, this Jewish Rabbi comes to and touches his tongue and ears and you've got to think this man is freaking out a bit and the first words this man heard is be opened.

Your ears, tongue, likewise impeded, with unkind words, gossip, selfishness, lies, manipulation. Repent of your filth. Just as with that man, supernatural for you. Ears to hear this Word, your tongue to confess this Lord, opened by God.

They're astonished beyond all measure; the name of Jesus is praised even in this area of the Decapolis. They make the good confession. **He has done all things well.** That is your confession as well. Jesus has done all things, all means all, all things well for you.

And yet you look around at your lives and you think this is not true. That Jesus has done some things well and other things He has done not so good, even done them poorly. He doesn't come close to texting us back or getting us an answer like google. That we would've done things differently or dare we think, better. We would have avoided that sickness. We would have avoided that cancer. We would have arranged things different and avoided suffering. But by faith we stand and confess that Jesus has done all things Well. For He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Himself up for us all, has also given us all things.

You see this is the unique Christian perspective on life, this world. Because the Son is sacrificed for you, conquered your sin and death, gives you eternal life right now, everything that comes to you in this life, comes to you as a gift. I know, it doesn't always fell like a gift. Even the bad stuff, even the suffering. Even the loss. Gifts can hurt. Everything you have comes from the hand of Jesus who loves you uniquely; we confess by faith with them in the Decapolis, Jesus has done all things well.

Say to those who have an anxious heart. Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance. He will come, save you. With those words, Isaiah would have you take our eyes, your ears, your mouth, off the concerns of your day. **Fear not! He will come, save you.** That's what Jesus is doing in today's Gospel reading, and in you, and here in this place. **He has done all things well.** He denies you nothing for your good. **He has done all things well,** not merely a daily promise, not merely better than you deserved, but better than you could have ever expected or see or understand, uniquely unto you.