

# Jesus calms the storm

Intro: Bible in color: Bible in black and white: Bible as blank:

**Mark 4:35-41** <sup>35</sup>On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” <sup>39</sup>And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?”

There are 3 accounts of this story: Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Some incorporate different details, Mark incorporates interesting dialogue.

## I. *Let us go across to the other side* – **God speaks**

- a. It was getting late, clearly states what is going to happen, no signs of danger ahead
- b. They trusted wholeheartedly.

### Transition to us:

- c. How does God speak to us today? Primarily through His Word:
  - i. Feel and impression, leading, nudging, prompting, etc...
  - ii. **Romans 8:28** – *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*
  - iii. **Heb 11:6** – He is a rewarder of those who seek Him
  - iv. **Rom 8:38-39** – Nothing can separate us from His love for us.
  - v. **Eph 2:8,9** – Salvation is by faith in the Son of Christ.
- d. Wrongly through our assumptions/desire about God
  - i. God wants me to be happy
  - ii. Life will be easier because I’m a Christian
- e. How well do you know God’s words? Are you trusting in them?

### Transition to story:

- f. They followed Christ’s Word: Then again, there was no reason to doubt UNTIL...
- g. The storm hits: Filling the boat
- h. Disciples are experienced...They worked as hard as they could and look down...
- i. Jesus is still asleep on the cushion in the back of the boat.
- j. Matthew records: *Save us, Lord: we are perishing.*
- k. Luke records: *Master, Master, we are perishing.*

## II. *Teacher, do you not care we are perishing?* – **Man responds**

- a. Who said this? Maybe Thomas, maybe Peter – no one stated because ALL do this...
- b. I wonder, was Jesus really asleep or just waiting? Waiting to be awoken for help.

### Transition to us:

- c. There is a time coming like the disciples where OUR experience will not be enough!
  - i. Situational Storms
  - ii. Relational Storms
  - iii. Emotional Storms
- d. **ILL**: Cedar Point Amusement Park: Millennium Force – “Do not disturb the operator”
  - i. Our “Operator” desires to be disturbed
- e. What will be your response when your storm comes? Work and when that fails cry out?
- f. Test yourself in the smaller areas? What is your hope in?

- i. Family, friends, pay check, health, comforts, trust fund or in God?
  - g. **ILL:** My storm: Kelly found out her mom had cancer on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, then 4 days later on Oct 19<sup>th</sup> I found out that my mom had cancer. Turned my world upside-down.
  - h. **Mark 9:24** *I believe; help my unbelief.*
  - i. Jesus gets up, calms the storm, then turns to them...
- III. *Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?* – **God teaches**
  - a. With the storm calmed He confronts the disciples:
    - i. He questions their fear and lack of faith
    - ii. Previous chapters: They saw a lot!!! He cast out many evil spirits, healed diseases and handicaps, and revealed great wisdom. Still no faith after all that?!
  - b. “Why God” is not a good question in the storm, it’s “What are you trying to teach me?”
  - c. **Jesus’ lesson this time: Fear focuses on the problem: Faith focuses on the solution.**
    - i. God is our help in time of need
    - ii. God is our refuge
    - iii. God is our strong tower
    - iv. God is our Mighty Savior
    - v. God is near to the broken hearted
  - d. What’s your excuse in pain? Is your storm too big or is your God too small?
- IV. *Who then is this, that even the wind and sea obey him?* – **Man worships**
  - a. Christ knew the whole time the storm was coming
    - i. Jesus didn’t seek to frustrate them but to open their eyes to His power
    - ii. He wanted them to trust in Him

**Transition to us:**

- b. When was the last time you were blown away by God?
  - i. Disciples for 2 chapters might’ve said: Another healing, another exorcism, etc.
  - ii. Church today: Another song, another message, another altar call – We’ve lost ALL Worship and Awe for God!!
- c. When was the last time you could say nothing, but “Who is this?”
- d. I don’t want to bottle God as a God of happy endings: Sometimes God’s best is beyond our comprehension: ILL: Mueller prayed for 8 yrs about his wife’s death.
- e. Sometimes we can not see the good in something for a long time after
- f. **Conclusion:** Disciples view of Christ’s crucifixion.
  - i. Array of people: In storms, never been in storms, still wondering why a storm happened: Let us examine our hearts today:
    1. Am I trusting Christ completely?
    2. Am I going to Him first for help?
    3. Am I learning from the lessons of life?
    4. Am I worshipping Christ through it all?