

Jesus Calms the Storm

Mark 4:35-41

Jesus had sat in a boat just off the shore of the Sea of Galilee and preached to the masses that had gathered to hear Him (Mark 4:1). When the day was over, He called His disciples to set sail for the other side of the lake. Tired from a busy day Jesus slept in back of the boat. These experienced fishermen soon found themselves in the midst of a storm that frightened even them. We all face storms. The question is how will we react when they occur?

Setting: The Sea of Galilee is 680 feet below sea level and is surrounded by hills. Here winds blow across the land often causing violent and unexpected storms. The sea can be calm one minute and violent the next. With cooler evening temperatures these storms usually do not happen at night.

Just like the location in this passage of scripture, storms will come our way unexpectedly. They are a part of life. The fact of the matter is today you are either in a storm, coming out of a storm, or headed into a storm.

Read: Mark 4:35-41

Have you ever doubted God's concern for you?

These men were looking at situations and not at the Savior. **Look up: Hebrews 4:15-16**

Have you ever doubted God's commitment to you?

Remember, it was Jesus Who had sent them out onto the sea in the first place. These men had left everything to follow Jesus and now they are afraid that Jesus is just going to let them all die. **Look up: Isaiah 49:14-16**

Have you ever doubted what God has told you?

Jesus had already told these men what was going to happen. He told them before the journey started that they were headed to the other side of the lake. If they had believed His words, they could have laughed at the storm. **Look up: Romans 8:28, Matthew 6:25-34**

As we face the storms of our lives, it will help us to know all we can about the One in the ship with us.

We must understand the power God

Jesus rebuked the wind and spoke to the sea. When He did, the winds fell silent and the sea became as a sheet of glass. Just as He had healed the sick and cast out the devils; He was able to control the storm. **Look up: Genesis 18:14, Daniel 3:19-27**

We must trust the promises of God

Just as Jesus said, they went over to the other side (Mark 5:1). They experienced (yet gain) that He was as good as His Word. And He still is. Everything He has promised, He will do. **Look up: Romans 4:21, John 14:1-2**

We must acknowledge the power of His presence

When the Lord is in your vessel, you have an advantage. These men were able to call on Him because He was with them. How does anyone possible weather the storms without Christ in their ship? **Look up: John 14:26**

We must remember the consistency of His care

Storms are powerful reminders to lean on Him and trust Him to take care of us. **Look up: 1 Peter 5:6-7**

We can then know the peace He brings

As we look at Jesus' example, He is sleeping. He knows that He is in the center of His Father's will. He is sleeping during the storm because He trusts His Father to take care of Him. **Look up: Psalm 127:1-2**

*You don't have to be afraid of a storm when it's in the hands of one who loves you.
God rules over land and sea. He has the power to calm the storms that arise in your life.
You and I need not fear the storm when our gracious, loving Heavenly Father is the One In control.*