

“Fear and Faith”

May 4, 2025

Mark 4:35-41

Introduction

What *current* circumstance/situation is causing fear/anxiety in your life?

What if we saw these fear-inducing situations not as something to be avoided or to just “get through” but as opportunities to trust(increasingly) Jesus?

A Great Storm.....

“On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling.

Mark 4:35-38

This incident seems to happen later in the day after Jesus finishes teaching the parables we looked at.

Probably tired and weary, the disciples and Jesus get in the boat.

The Sea of Galilee is known for **sudden, strong storms**.

Have you ever been caught at sea in the middle of a storm?

What was your response?

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Fear and Faith Collide:

“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?” 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. He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

Mark 4:38-41

In your own words, how do the disciples respond to the storm?

In your own words, how does Jesus respond to the storm and to the disciples?

Two Key Truths:

1. This miracle account takes the disciples understanding of who Jesus is to a whole new level!

- The Disciples call him “teacher” but by the end they get a glimpse that he is MUCH MORE than just a teacher.

- They *sang* about God’s power over the waters, but now they *saw* it. (see Psalm 29:3, Psalm 65:5-7, Psalm 89:8-9)

2. Fear wants us to “trust” our perspective of our circumstances, where Faith invites us to trust Jesus!

- Both fear and faith ask us to believe in something that hasn’t yet happened.

- We have a choice to follow our own understanding or to trust in Jesus (Psalms 3:5-6)

Personal Application:

Where do you need Jesus to strengthen your faith?

In the situation you have in mind, what would it look like for you to move forward in faith?

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