

## Go to Jesus for the storms taking place

- a. In your life
- b. In the lives of others
- c. In our country and world



### Mark 4:35-41

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. ...



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?"



1. When overwhelmed by the storm, realize Jesus is overwhelmingly more powerful than the storm.



Verse 39: 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.



Psalm 107:29-30: He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad that the waters were quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.



Don't tell God how big your storm is, tell the storm how big your God is.



2. God's power to calm the storm cannot be controlled or manipulated.



Verse 38: But he was in the stern, asleep on a cushion And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"



Jesus doesn't seem to respond the way we want him to, nor at the immediacy that we think he should.



Paul Tripp: "...When the unexpected, the unwanted, the unplanned, the hard and the difficult enters your life, you will always preach some kind of gospel to yourself. Everybody in this room is a theologian. Everybody in this room is a philosopher. Everybody in this room is an archaeologist who will dig through the mound of his or her existence in order to make sense out of life."



Suffering is universal and we bring an interpretation of life into the suffering...

(meaning) "Human beings, made in the image of God, do not live life based on the facts of their experience, but based on their interpretation of the facts."



"No one is more influential on your life than you are, because no one talks to you more than you do."

That interpretation often results in questioning and doubting God:



The Doubt of Wonderment: "God doesn't tell me things ahead of time...And I don't get the script ahead of time. So I'm going to be surprised. I'm going to feel at moments unprepared. I'm going to wonder, 'How is this good? How does this agree with the promises of God?' That wonderment is part of running to God in faith and trying to hold on to him in moments of confusion."



The Doubt of Judgment: "This happens when, because of what I'm going through, I have brought God into the court of my judgment and I have judged him as being unfaithful, uncaring and unkind. It's tempting, when you're going through dramatic things that you cannot escape, to let those trials function in your mind and heart as a way of understanding God. This is incredibly dangerous."



*"You don't ever allow your experiences to interpret who God is. You let who God says he is to interpret your experience."* - Paul Tripp



"The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?"

- Psalm 27:1



3. Unlike a storm, God's great power is  
accompanied by great love.



Matthew 12:41: The men of Nineveh will  
rise up at the judgment with this  
generation and condemn it, for they  
repented at the preaching of Jonah, and  
behold, something greater than Jonah is  
here.



Charles Spurgeon: "(A Christian) trusts  
Him where (he) cannot trace Him."



Have you still no faith = Where is your  
faith

