



STORIES OF THE KINGDOM

STAND ALONE 4: FAITH IN THE STORM

May 19, 2019

Pastor Randy Remington

BIBLICAL TEXT(S)

"Every time Jesus says, "Let's go", there will be a storm along the way. The storm wants to reframe the mission and the God who calls us."

-Pastor Randy

TEXT(S):

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith? They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" (Mark 4:35-41)

Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the Lord will be at your side and will keep your foot from being snared. (Proverbs 3:25-26)

It was faith that made Abraham obey when God called him and go out to a country God had promised to him. He left his own country without knowing where he was going." (Hebrews 11:8)

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town." (Luke 8:26-27)

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Faith is the means by which we navigate life and how we relate to God. Our faith in God will always be a verified place to put our trust. When we put our trust in God and relate to him in this way we can't go wrong. We must know God to have faith in him. The more we know God, the more we love God, and the more we can trust God.

In trusting in God we can get through the storms of life. The things we see as challenges or storms in our lives are not challenges to Jesus. He gives us promises to hold on to during the storms. When Jesus says and promises something we can trust it to happen and be true. Storms will come between the promises and the destination. Jesus will walk with us through the storms; our hope and peace will come from him. Jesus will give us peace, an internal calm, during challenges as we trust in him.

When storms come up it is easy to fall into fear and anticipate loss; however, we are called to have faith and anticipate seeing God do mighty things. Our faith through storms and challenges will show others who Jesus is and give them hope in their own lives. We can show people around us who is in our boat during the storm and to whom we will run to in the difficult times.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to help you lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage

LEAN IN

These are icebreaker/warm up questions, mostly just to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.

1. Do you have any memories of storms as a child? How did you feel? What did your parents or adults in your life do to help you through it?
2. Did you ever lose power due to a storm? What was that like as a child or as an adult? What do you think you would do on the boat with Jesus in the storm?
4. What stood out to you in the sermon? Why was it significant to you?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS, CONT.

and the speaker's message, helping them understand and apply the teaching.

LOOK DOWN

These are questions on the passage and observations about what's been read.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. In Mark 4:35-36, When and where did Jesus tell them to go? What does the text say about the setting and the state of Jesus? Does anything stand out in these two verses?
2. In Mark 4:37-41, What do you notice about the conversation between Jesus and the disciples? Where was fear present?
3. How does Proverbs 3:25-26 relate to the conversation in Mark 4? How could the disciples have benefited from remembering this proverb?
4. Looking at Hebrews 11:8, What similarities and differences can be drawn between Abraham and the disciples?
5. What can see of Jesus' power in Mark 4:35-41?

LOOK OUT

These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. Jesus told the disciples to go to the other side of the lake. That was going from the side of Jewish territory to the side of the Roman territory. When does God call us, the church, to go to the other side or go out into the world?
2. When the church goes out, we can either react with faith (anticipating mighty things) or fear (anticipating loss). How can we encourage faith?
3. Why do you think the disciples were more terrified after Jesus calmed the storm?
4. In Hebrews 11:8, Abraham obeyed without knowing where he was going. Pastor Randy said that Abraham saw a God that is greater than the facts. How can we see beyond the facts?
5. Discuss the meaning of the connection and differences between Jonah and Jesus in Matthew 12:38-41.

LOOK IN

These are questions that help you consider personal application.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. Between God giving us a command or promise and the destination, there will be storms. How do you handle these storms of life?
2. Where can you see the power of Jesus in your life, the power that is greater than demons and chaotic storms?
3. Do you tend to have faith in the storms? Or, does fear tend to take over in the chaotic storms?
4. What would it look like if you had more of Jesus' perspective during the storms? If you had faith that Jesus was in your boat?
5. What promise(s) has God spoken to you?

LIVE IT OUT

These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life.

Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.

1. Randy talked about having internal peace while having storms all around us. Sometimes we can make small storms seem bigger than they are, what changes can you make to have more internal peace this week?
2. How will you let your experiences in the storms be able to help others as they go through storms? How can you be a witness to others as they navigate the challenges life brings?

NOTE: Below and on the following page you will find a set of sermon notes created by Charissa Burns, an artist who calls B4 home. We include them purely for your enjoyment and encouragement, courtesy of Charissa. You can follow her on the 'Gram @charissaburnsstudio

S-19-2019 | **FAITH IS...** | Mark 4:35-41

Faith is the means in which we navigate life.
Faith is how we relate to God.

Faith in God will always be a verified place to put our trust.

The more you know God, the more you love God, The more you trust God.

Whatever challenges we face are not challenges for Jesus!
We live by faith not by sight.

- Jesus has been teaching all day
- They go out in the boat to the other side of the lake.
- It's night time, Jesus is asleep (teaching all day is exhausting)
- They were going from Jewish territory to Roman territory.
- **STORM ROSE UP. JESUS CALMED THE STORM.**

Jesus said "Let's go to the other side."
He said it so there was no way they wouldn't make it! It was a PROMISE!

Going to the other was missional... intentional!
↳ The storm was bigger than boat

↳ the disciples woke Jesus saying "don't you care if we drown?"
↳ Jesus calmed the storm and questioned them about their faith.

Between Jesus saying "Let's go." and the destination there will be storms!

STORMS ARE... } JESUS IS WITH YOU & WILL GIVE YOU REST.

- unpredictable
- inevitable
- to derail us

We don't know how to have internal calm with external storms.
- Sometimes we even blow the storm out of proportion.

Jesus was busy but wasn't hurried. He wasn't going to let a storm disrupt his peace. He kept his relationship solid with the Father and His peace would not be shaken!

The water and the sea were symbols of chaos and unrest/Darkness.

Following Jesus does not exempt you from storms.

The same word - REBUKE - was used for the ~~the~~ wind and waves as is used for Demonic rebuking.

Who is in the boat with you?

Jesus has power, the storm has power but the difference is Jesus loves you! His power is greater than any storm. He will get you through the storm.

Abraham saw a God that is greater than the facts!

Perspective is important! Jesus had a different perspective than the disciples.

Make sure that the one in the boat with you is the one greater than the Storm... Jesus.

It's easy to forget what Jesus said in the quiet of the morning. He said "Let's go to the other side." The disciples got caught up in the storm.

FAITH is the anticipation of seeing God do mighty things
FEAR is the anticipation of loss.

God will do mighty things!
We can be witnesses of them to others.

Your attitude & actions determine the progress of others... There are others in the storm!

It's not where you're going...
but to whom you're going!

Jesus took the whole storm at the cross! He already did it.

Jesus is faithful to his word. He will do what he said. His promises are true.

What is the promise he has spoken to you?

