



Living Fearlessly September 3 & 4, 2022

Jesus asked the most riveting question:
Why are you afraid?

Mark 4:35-41 (TPT)

That same day, after it grew dark, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." Leaving the crowd behind, the disciples got into the boat in which Jesus was already sitting, and they took him with them. Other boats sailed with them. Suddenly, as they were crossing the lake, a ferocious storm arose, with violent winds and waves that were crashing into the boat until it was nearly swamped. But Jesus was calmly sleeping in the stern, resting on a cushion. So they shook him awake, saying, "Teacher, don't you even care that we are all about to die!" Fully awake, he rebuked the storm and shouted to the sea, "Hush! Be still!" All at once the wind stopped howling and the water became perfectly calm. Then he turned to his disciples and said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Haven't you learned to trust yet?" But they were overwhelmed with fear and awe and said to one another, "Who is this man who has such authority that even the wind and waves obey him?"

The storm - Seismos – an earthquake of a storm.

Matthew uses the word Seismos only 3 times in his writing:

- Once at the crucifixion.
- Once at the resurrection.
- Once at the storm's description.

The wicked storm rages while:

- The disciples were bailing water. (Thunder roars)
- Jesus was sawing logs. (Jesus snores)

The disciples were demanding and doubt-filled.

Consequences of fear:

- Fear can erode our confidence in God's goodness.

Mark 4:38 (TPT)

But Jesus was calmly sleeping in the stern, resting on a cushion.

- Fear numbs our memories about our Saviors' miraculous power.

Mark 1:25 (TPT)

Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Silence! You are bound! Come out of him!"

- Fear demands that Christ enters our chaos, rather than us entering the calm of Christ.

Healthy and holy fears:

- Protect us from danger.
- Produce a healthy respect for God.
- Provide a path to a deeper faith.

- Fear is an emotion, but the inappropriate response to fear is a sin.

Living fearlessly means I:

1

Remember God does not give me a spirit of fear.

2 Timothy 1:7 (TPT)

For God will never give you the spirit of fear, but the Holy Spirit who gives you mighty power, love, and self-control.

Mark 4:38 (TPT)

But Jesus was calmly sleeping in the stern, resting on a cushion.

- God's most common command in the Bible is fear not.
- Jesus' most common command was "Do not be afraid but take courage."
- Jesus gave 125 commands and 21 of them were to not be afraid.
- Only 8 times did Jesus command us to love.

2

Recognize being controlled by my fears means I don't trust my Savior.

Mark 4:40a (TPT)

Then he turned to his disciples and said to them, "Why are you so afraid?"

They exchanged one unhealthy fear for another.

Mark 4:41 (TPT)

But they were overwhelmed with fear and awe and said to one another, "Who is this man who has such authority that even the wind and waves obey him?"

Mark 4:39, 41b (TPT)

So they shook him awake, saying, "Teacher, don't you even care that we are all about to die!" Fully awake, he rebuked the storm and shouted to the sea, "Hush! Be still!" All at once the wind stopped howling and the water became perfectly calm... "Who is this man who has such authority that even the wind and waves obey him?"

Hebrew 11:3-4 (TPT)

Faith empowers us to see that the universe was created and beautifully coordinated by the power of God's words! He spoke and the invisible realm gave birth to all that is seen. Faith moved Abel to choose a more acceptable sacrifice to offer God than his brother Cain, and God declared him righteous because of his offering of faith. By his faith, Abel still speaks instruction to us today, even though he is long dead.

Isaiah 40:22 (NLT)

God sits above the circle of the earth. The people below seem like grasshoppers to him! He spreads out the heavens like a curtain and makes his tent from them.

Romans 1:20 (TPT)

Opposition to truth cannot be excused on the basis of ignorance, because from the creation of the world, the invisible qualities of God's nature have been made visible, such as his eternal power and transcendence. He has made his wonderful attributes easily perceived, for seeing the visible makes us understand the invisible. So then, this leaves everyone without excuse.



struggles

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