

**Maintain Your Confidence!  
God Is With You!**

**(NKJV) Mk 4:35** On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, “Let us cross over to the other side.” **36** Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. **37** And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. **38** But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” **39** Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. **40** But He said to them, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?” **41** And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!”

*(See also Matt. 8:23–27; Luke 8:22–25)*

**Mk 4:35** On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, “Let us cross over to the other side.”

- I. Our Lord is always with us! Even in our trials and hard times! At many times he allows the hard times to come so that we will know that he is always there. Because when we make it through the hard times we know he is the only reason we were able to make it through the hard times.
  - A. He tells us to be confident all throughout Scripture even when he is leading us into what would otherwise be dangerous situations.

**(NKJV) Dt 31:6** Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.”

**LIFE IS ALWAYS FILLED WITH UNCERTAINTIES BUT THERE IS ALWAYS ONE THING CERTAIN, GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL!**

**(NKJV) Ex 3:12** So He said, “I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you:

**When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”**

**(NKJV) Mt 28:20** teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

- 1. In this situation, he lets us know that he sent us on the mission when we accomplish it. Oftentimes, we don't know that he is with us until we start on our journey.
- 2. Remember what he said to Abraham? Abraham had to go not knowing where he was going but he had the promise of God that God was going to do things for him.

- a. he was going to an uncertain place. There would be bandits along the road. There would be kings in the area that he went to that would threaten to take his wife.
    - b. In life there are tremendous uncertainties but one certainty God is with us!
  - 3. God puts us in dangerous situations and then delivers us so that we will develop the confidence that he will deliver us.
  - 4. Sooner or later we will begin to believe that the God that gave us the victory over the bear and the lion will give us the victory over the Giants in our life.
- B. He tells them to go to the other side to teach them that no matter how dangerous the situation is he has the ability to calm the storm.
- 1. This is the confidence we must have. Our God did not intend for us to be troubled in any situation regardless to the things that we see that maybe facing us.  
**(NKJV) Jn 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**
  - 2. We are commanded in all things  
**(NKJV) 1 Pe 5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. 10 But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.**  
  
**(NKJV) Jas 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**  
  
**(NKJV) Ac 14:22 ... “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”**  
  
**(NKJV) 1 Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.**

- a. Understand, that God knows you're going to go through some things. But God also has promised to deliver you through those things!
- b. Keep this in mind!  
**(NKJV) Ps 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all.**
  - (1) Therefore, remain righteous, that is faithful at all times and God will deliver you at the proper time!
  - (2) Consider this question:

## WHAT MAKES ONE RIGHTEOUS?

**Mk 4:35 On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side." 36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.**

- II. Jesus is physically with them
  - A. this is the same thing regarding us. In fact, it is far better. He lives inside of us.  
**(NKJV) Ps 139:7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?**  
**8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.**  
**9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.**  
**11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.**

**And other little boats were also with Him.**

- III. Now we also see that others were following him. In little boats!
  - A. Here we see people willing to follow Christ but in their decision to follow they have to face a storm. So true this is as soon as you decide you want to get right with God the first thing you encounter is a storm.
    - 1. Just because you have to go through a storm, don't abort the process, because you will miss the opportunity to see the deliverance of the Lord in your storm.
  - B. A true disciple will follow Christ no matter the difficulties they have to go through to do so.
    - 1. The more you have to go through the greater the opportunity you see the deliverance of the Lord in your life.
    - 2. His deliverance strengthens you to do even greater things!
    - 3. Trials build you up. They do not come to break you they come to make you.
      - a. They come to make you perfect so that you can be an even greater servant for the Lord.

- C. In order to follow Christ you have to be willing to deny yourself and what you want for yourself. He clearly has stated to us:  
**(NKJV) Lk 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. 24 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.**

**(NKJV) Lk 14:33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.**

**(NKJV) Mt 10:37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.**

**(NKJV) Mk 4:37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.**

IV. This seems so unfair!

- A. Jesus knew there was going to be a storm. Comprehend this: he encouraged them to go into the storm!

### **JESUS ENCOURAGED THEM TO GO INTO THE STORM**

1. Consider that the storm you are in now it has been designed by God just for you!
2. This storm is not a surprise to him!
3. Why?

**(NKJV) 1 Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.**

- B. Storms can come on us unexpectedly. Things may seem like they are okay and then all of a sudden
1. there is an accident
  2. there is a doctors report
  3. a pain
  4. something unexpected happens
  5. you lose your job
- C.
- D. These are experienced sailors but they are having a difficult time in the storm.
1. Truly, these men had been caught in storms before and they knew how to handle them but apparently the storm was more violent than any other they had known.

2. I am sure they thought they could handle it.
3. There will always be situations that are vastly superior to our ability to handle them.
  - a. No matter how independent we think we are!  
**(NKJV) 1 Co 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.**

E. Consider the words again: **37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.**

1. This was a surprise storm. The Bible said it arose. Meaning it came from out of nowhere.
  - a. Many different times there are things that are unexpected that happen in our life. Things we had no idea were going to happen.
  - b. Surprises
2. Great windstorm. This is sort of like a hurricane
  - a. rolling black clouds
  - b. thunder and lightning
  - c. waves flowing up and down around them
  - d. pouring over into the boat
3. What's worse is this is at night! Remember we are told it was in the evening when they left.
  - a. you don't know when the next wave is going to hit
  - b. you are blinded
  - c. it is dark
  - d. of great uncertainty as to what is going to happen
4. There is water getting in the boat.  
**(NKJV) Mt 8:24 And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep.**  
**(NKJV) Lk 8:23 But as they sailed He fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in jeopardy.**
5. Some storms swoop down upon us totally unexpectedly. There is no warning, no sign of their coming. Even when we are believers they come.
  - a. **But maintain your confidence - God Is With You!**
  - b. Some storms are great. Their waves and repercussions slash against us. They overwhelm us and threaten to engulf us.  
**(1) Still maintain your confidence - God Is With You!**
  - c. Some are life-threatening. We see no escape, no way out, no deliverance. There seems to be no way to carry on, not in the present circumstances.  
**(1) Still maintain your confidence - God Is With You!**
6. Keep in mind the billows may roll, the sea may be tossed and driven, the thunder may roar, and the lightning may flash, always remember:
  - a. greater is he that is in you that he that is in the world!  
**(NKJV) Pr 3:24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet. 25 Do not**

**be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; 26 For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.**

**(NKJV) Mk 4:38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”**

V. Ain't this a mess!

- A. They are about to die and he is asleep on a pillow.
  - 1. No matter how dire our circumstances are, those circumstances don't overwhelm our Lord.
  - 2. He is at peace with what is going on.
  - 3. Is this right? They are going through hell and he is calmly resting in the back of the boat.
  - 4. Lord, do you know what I'm going through? Do you really know what I'm going through? You have no earthly idea of how much hell I'm going through?
  - 5. This can't be you God!
- B. How could he be a sleep through all of this storm? Remember what Christ said?  
**(NKJV) Jn 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.**
  - 1. Notice: he said we would be able to do what he did. Therefore,
  - 2. The peace that Jesus is experiencing is also the peace we can experience.
    - a. Let not your hearts be troubled!
    - b. This promise is made to us  
**(NKJV) 1 Jn 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**

**(NKJV) Mk 4:38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”**

- C. Look at this:
  - 1. throughout all the storm he is asleep. **But He is With Them**
  - 2. they are about to die and he is sleeping. **But He is With Them**
  - 3. Water is coming in the boat and he is sleeping, **But He is With Them**
  - 4. the boat is tossed to and fro and he is sleeping **But He is With Them**
  - 5. the wind, the lightning, the thunder is resounding and he is sleeping **But He is With Them**
  - 6. how can he be asleep?
  - 7. He is asleep and does nothing until they turn to him and request's involvement.

- a. how many trials are you going through and the troubles you are experiencing are still there simply because you have not gone to wake Jesus up?
- D. Here is the most important thing they did. They went to Jesus!
  - 1. How many trials do we go through and suffer through simply because we do not go to Jesus?
- E. Noticed their words: **“Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”**
  - 1. They think they are about to die!
  - 2. They are confessing their need of Christ to do something.
- F. Notice what happens next

**(NKJV) Mk 4:39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.**

VI. Analyze his actions

- A. **he arose**
  - 1. why did he get up?
  - 2. never underestimate your power to get God involved in your situation!

**NEVER UNDER ESTIMATE YOUR POWER TO GET GOD INVOLVED IN YOUR SITUATION**

- B. **he rebuked the wind**
- C. **he spoke to the sea**

**“Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.**

- D. Peace, be Still
- E. See the word, "great calm". Wherever Jesus is there is the opportunity for peace if you will embrace his presence.

**(NKJV) 2 Co 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.**

**(NKJV) 2 Co 2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.**

**(NKJV) 2 Ti 4:18 And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!**

**(NKJV) Ps 91:3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence.**

- F. Now after he stills the storm....

**(NKJV) Mk 4:40 But He said to them, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?”**

VII. What does he mean by this?

**THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN OFFER TO GOD IS FAITH EXEMPLIFIED BY WORKS!**

**(NKJV) Jas 2:18 But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? 22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. 24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**

- A. He would have rather they not be afraid and continue to the other side is he had commanded.
- B. Peace in the storm comes by faith. No matter how difficult things might be, we walk by faith and not by sight.
  - 1. Our faith should be in him who said he would never leave us
  - 2. We prove that by pressing on to fulfill the mission he has called us to
  - 3. We must not give up, we must maintain our confidence!
- C. Surely, he meant for them to have confidence, not in themselves but in him, no matter how great the storm is.
- D. Ultimately, his expectation was that they too should recognize they have the ability to do as he has done.
  - 1. If we can speak to a mountain and move it, what is the difference between it and a storm?

**IF A MOUNTAIN HAS EARS AND A TREE HAS EARS THEN, ALSO, THE STORM HAS EARS.**

**COMMAND THE STORMS IN YOUR LIFE!**

- E. They had been with him for quite some time but still they did not know him.

**41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!”**

VIII. Now at this point they are no longer afraid of the storm but they are afraid of Jesus. Why?

- A. One of the reasons they were fearful was because they really had not come to know him.
- B. When you don't know Jesus you are fearful  
**(NKJV) Ps 119:165 Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble.**

1. We have to develop into maturity so that we are not fearful
    - a. So many of us are still infants when by this time we ought to be teachers.
  2. So many storms in our life give us trouble because we have not come to know Jesus in the ways we should.
    - a. So many of us are fretful over trivial matters because we are not mature enough to know and understand the relationship we have with our God.
- C. When will we come to understand the importance of holding this word dear to us?  
It is what gives us our confidence.
- D. His word has informed us that even in our storms  
**(NKJV) Ro 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.**

**(NKJV) Ga 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.**

**(NKJV) Ps 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

**(NKJV) Ps 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?**

IX. Now I tell you, maintain your confidence!

**(NKJV) Ro 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?**

**36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.**

**38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

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