

TITLE AND NUMBER: 190. No wonder they were shocked!



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Mark 4:35-41

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!'

LOOKING FURTHER: Hebrews 4:16; Matthew 13:45-46; Matthew 16:16-17

What does this Bible passage tell us?

Although the disciples had seen Jesus do so many things, they were still very new in their faith and inclined to forget that He was God's Son, as well as their friend and teacher. We can have the same reaction and imagine that Jesus cannot help in our issues and dilemmas. This story gives us hope because even though He was probably frustrated with them, Jesus quickly sorted out the cause of the disciples' fears and made everything right.

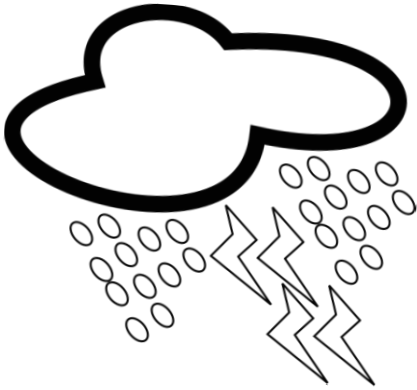
The disciples were in the safest place in the whole world - right beside Jesus. They had no cause for alarm at all. But their fears got the better of them. We too may be prone to panicking when things do not go as we expect. We too may get anxious about what lies ahead. If we ask God for help with our plans, He will show us what is the best course of action. And, if we stick to it, we are in the best place. Jesus was going to the other side of the lake. We do not know what His intentions were, other than to have some peace from the crowd. No storm, or anything else could upset Him. And that kind of peace can be ours too if we trust Him completely.

When we realise He is God Almighty, He can change any situation by taking it away or by simply being with us in it all. We have found 'the pearl of great value' (Matthew 13:45-46). We never have to be overwhelmed by our fears, but instead simply entrust it all to His very capable hands. One command from Jesus calmed the storm. No wonder they were shocked. Praise God that Jesus still does miracles today.

Reflections:

- Do you ever stop to think who Jesus really is? We can sometimes be frivolous and not give Him His rightful place.
- Who did Peter say that Jesus was? This was when the penny finally dropped. Look up what Jesus said about it. The same is true for us! (Matthew 16:16-17).
- What does this mean for you? Do you realise you are a child of God and you are precious in His sight?

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

