



Revealing Words Bible Study

“Faith in the Storm”

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Faith in the Storm

Sometimes, when I walk into my office and glance at my *Sea of Galilee* painting hanging on my wall, I feel myself drawn into its spiritual depth. I cannot help but think of the actual night when peace on that same sea was shattered and the disciples shook. The painting becomes more than art for me; it becomes a doorway into a profound lesson.

I imagine evening settling over the Sea of Galilee. Jesus turns to His disciples and says, “Let us go over to the other side” (Mark 4:35 NIV). The day has been long, filled with crowds pressing in and parables flowing from Jesus’s lips. I picture the disciples, some of them seasoned fishermen, pushing the boat from the shore. The water is calm, the sky is quiet, and the scene looks almost identical to the stillness captured in my painting. The part of the painting can barely be noticed. Just past the dark clouds and storms in the corner of the painting, you see some sunlight and blue sky. Jesus, exhausted, finds a cushion in the stern and falls asleep.

The image in the painting and the Biblical account, tells me that the calm does not last.

I imagine the wind starting to howl across the sea. Dark clouds roll in. Waves rise and crash violently against the boat. The disciples scramble as water pours over the sides. The boat groans under the weight of the storm. These men, who have spent their lives on this sea, feel fear grip their hearts. This storm is different. This storm is deadly.

Just like in my painting, I think about how quickly life can shift from calm to chaos. One moment everything is still, the next, the storm is upon me.

In Mark 4:35-41, it describes how the disciples looked back and saw Jesus still asleep. I imagine their disbelief, their frustration. Their fear boils over. They rush to Him and shout, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown” (Mark 4:38 NIV)? In the theater of my mind, their voices tremble with panic, frustration, and desperation. They feel abandoned, forgotten, overwhelmed. This makes me think about the times I have felt the same when the storm inside me or around me did not match the calm I wished I could see.

Jesus rises, calm in the chaos, steady in the storm. I picture Him standing in that rocking boat, water dripping from His robe, wind whipping around Him. He looks into the storm and speaks three simple words, “Quiet! Be still” (Mark 4:39 NIV)! Instantly, the wind stops. The waves settle. The sea becomes like glass. The storm obeys at the sound of His voice.

I imagine the disciples staring at Him, wide eyed and trembling, not from the storm but from awe. “They were terrified and asked each other, ‘Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him” (Mark 4:41 NIV)!

As I sit in my office, looking at my painting, I feel the weight of that truth. Storms do not reveal Jesus’ absence. Storms reveal His authority. The painting becomes a reminder not of calm seas, but of the One who has and can command them.

Jesus Is Present Even When He Seems Silent

1. The disciples panicked because Jesus was asleep, but His presence in the boat meant they were never in real danger. Where in your life do you feel like Jesus is “asleep,” and how does Mark 4:40 remind you of His presence?

2. How does Psalm 46:1 challenge your assumptions about God’s nearness during your personal storms?

Fear Grows When We Focus on the Storm Instead of Jesus

3. What “waves” in your life are capturing your attention, and how does Isaiah 41:10 speak to that fear?

4. How does Peter’s experience in Matthew 14:30–31 reinforce the danger of focusing on the storm instead of Jesus?

Jesus Has Authority Over Every Storm

5. What does Mark 4:39 reveal about Jesus’ authority in situations that feel out of control?

6. How does Colossians 1:17 deepen your understanding of Jesus' power in holding all things together?

Storms Can Expose the Condition of Our Faith

7. What does James 1:3 teach you about how God uses storms to strengthen your faith?

8. How does 2 Corinthians 5:7 challenge you to walk by faith rather than by what you see in the storm?

Awe of Jesus Replaces Fear of the Storm

9. How does Proverbs 9:10 help you understand the difference between fear of circumstances and reverence for God?

10. How does Psalm 33:8 call you to respond to God's power in your own life?

Remember: The story of Jesus calming the storm is not just about wind and waves. It is about the storms inside us. The fear, anxiety, uncertainty, and doubt that rise when life feels out of control. Jesus does not promise a life without storms, but He does promise His presence, His authority, and His peace in the midst of them. The disciples learned that day that the safest place in any storm is not on calm waters, it is in the boat with Jesus.