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Title: Peace in the Storm

Scriptures: Mark 4:35- 41

INTRODUCTION

The world needs peace because there are storms in life.

Consider the disciples:

(Mark 4:35-41)

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!"

The disciples learnt Jesus was not only man but the Son of God.

- Faith that cannot be tested, cannot be trusted
- Two principles to understand
 - Accept the fact that life has storms
 - Don't blame each other
- To have your prayer and fasting answered understand Isaiah 58:9-10

(Isaiah 58:9-10)

9 Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, 10 If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.

FIVE PRINCIPLES TO PRACTISE IN A STORM

- Lift the anchor and launch into the deep
 - Boats near the shore suffer greater loss
 - Storms cause you go deep in the Word, prayer and in your walk with the Lord.
 - Storms can benefit you when you learn to "use" it, guided by the Holy Spirit.
 - Queen Esther was guided by Mordecai – a type of the Holy Spirit
 - The children of Israel were guided by the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night on their journey to the Promised Land
- Face the storm, steer into the storm and deal with it
 - David and Goliath – "David drew near to the Philistine"

(1 Samuel 17:40)

"Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine."

- Jesus said, “You will say to this mountain”

(Matthew 17:20)

So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

- Jesus is in front of us in the boat (Mark 4:36)
 - Jesus comes to us from the future and not from the past
 - He does not see your past to respond .He sees your future to respond.
- Get rid of excess baggage or cargo
 - Storms prune and cut off useless things.

(Jonah 1:5)

Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep.

- Cast yourself on the cross
 - The captain is cast on the mast, others too if necessary



- Cling to the cross, get back to the Word of God
- Consider the Hymn: The Old Rugged Cross
- Rest in the Lord enjoy the ride - Jesus was asleep in the boat (V. 36)

Ten steps to find rest

Psalm 37:3-8

- 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.
- 4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.
- 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.
- 7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.
- 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret – it only causes harm.

Things to do:

- Trust
- Do good
- Dwell or abide
- Feed
- Delight
- Commit
- Rest
- Wait or be patient
- Do not fret
- Cease from anger

The outcome:

- 5b He shall bring it to pass.
- 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

CONCLUSION

- Everyone will face a wave bigger than their boat
 - Lift the anchor and launch into the deep
 - Deal with the storm
 - Get rid of excess baggage
 - Cast yourself on the cross
 - Rest in the Lord

Exodus 14:22 & 29

22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. 29 But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Verse 22 – The front liners got wet

Verse 29 – Others only will go when it is dry ground.

Let us take a leap in faith and experience the water parting before us and not wait for it to part.