



Jesus Calms the Storm (Mk 4:35–41)

February 3

OVERVIEW: [Mark](#)

CONTEXT: Mark wants you to believe in and follow Jesus. In a string of miracles Mark shows Jesus as having power over sickness and the spiritual world. In a story usually spun to mean that Jesus can calm the storms in your life (which He can!), he uses to prove that Jesus is the Son of God (Mk 1:1) and that by believing in Him you may have life in His name. Here Jesus is shown to have power over the physical world.

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Parable of the Sower)

- *Presuming the sermon will be on this... (it is also part of today's readings).*
- Recap the parable in your own words.
- Sub in the meanings of the symbols as given by Jesus. What does the parable mean?
- What can choke out the Gospel's growth in our life?
- The fruit of faith: how does the true believer persevere in the faith by bearing fruit?

READ: Mk 4:35–41

QUESTIONS:

1. *Jesus' ministry base of Galilee meant he often used the lake for transportation. Because of it being below sea level (696'), in a valley, and between the sea and desert, the Sea of Galilee could be the scene of turbulent weather.*
2. **Share a time when you witnessed extreme weather.**
3. What do you think it would have been like for the disciples to be in this storm? What clues are there that it was severe?
4. **Where was Jesus?! (v. 38)**
5. *V. 38a- Mark was a travelling companion of Peter. What little encouragement to trust His Gospel is found in this verse?*
6. Why was Jesus so tired? How does this show His humanity?

7. *In Jewish thought, water represented chaos (waves=Job 12:15; Ps 33:7/ storms= Job 28:25; Ps 107:25–30; Amos 4:13).*
8. Was Jesus so calloused as not to be concerned? What does Jesus' sleep demonstrate?
9. *The very one directing the storm was asleep in it.*
10. V. 38b- The disciples fear of perishing was greater than their trust in Jesus, how so?
11. **How are fear and faith opposites?**
12. Does Jesus care about our personal circumstances, even the smallest of things in our lives?
13. **Share a story when you feared greatly but we called to have faith in Jesus? What was the outcome?**
14. V. 39- Who alone can command the weather/physical world? (hold that thought!).
15. V. 40- What had the disciples still not grasped? If they had grasped and believe this why would their response have been different?
16. **V. 41- Who did this miracle prove Jesus was?**
17. *As God, Jesus directed the storm, so that He could calm it, to reveal Himself, so the disciples might believe, so that He would get the glory.*
18. *In this LG I've sought to argue for the key meaning than is often drawn from this story. However, that is of course not to say that Jesus doesn't rescue us from storms when it is in accordance with God's will (we're promised peace in the midst of chaos, not necessarily relief from it).*
 1. **How has answered prayer in crisis strengthened your faith?**
19. *The children's song, "with Jesus in the boat you can smile at the storm, as we go sailing home..." does teach us a valuable alternative lesson: He doesn't always rescue us from the storm. Why? What is still our consolation?*

NEXT TIME: February 10, John 6 in flow...