

Sunday Sermon Guide

Central Baptist Church – Crockett, Texas

November 30, 2025 – Miracle Moments: Power Over the Storm

Main Passage: Matthew 8:23-27

SERMON OUTLINE

I. The Storm Jesus Led Them Into

- Jesus *intentionally* led His disciples into the boat.
- Obedience doesn't prevent storms; sometimes obedience leads *through* storms.
- The Sea of Galilee sits nearly **700 feet below sea level**, surrounded by steep cliffs and mountains.
- These conditions create rapid, violent, unpredictable storms.
- The storm was not a small squall—it was strong enough to terrify seasoned fishermen.

II. The Intensity of the Trial

- Mark records waves *breaking over* the sides of the boat and filling it with water.
- The small 1st-century fishing boat was overloaded with 10–12 men.
- Jesus was asleep in the stern—revealing His full **humanity** (exhaustion) and His full **divinity** (perfect peace).
- The disciples believed they were moments from death.
- Their cry reveals their heart:
 1. "Lord, save us!" (Matthew)
 2. "Don't you care that we're going to die?" (Mark)

III. Fear vs. Faith

- Being **scared** is normal and human—it often protects us.
- **Fear**, however, is a controlling spirit that dominates decisions and perspective.
- 2 Timothy 1:7 — God has *not* given us a spirit of fear.
- The disciples were not simply reacting—they were *ruled* by fear.
- Their deepest assumption was: "Jesus doesn't care."
- Fear blinded them from the fact that the Creator was already in the boat.

IV. The Power of Jesus Displayed

- Jesus “rebukes” the wind and waves as if they are living forces under His authority.
- The sea instantly becomes calm—no wind, no waves, no clouds.
- The disciples are overwhelmed with awe:
 1. “What kind of man is this?”
- This miracle reveals Jesus’ identity as the Messiah who holds authority over creation itself.

V. What the Storm Revealed

- The storm exposed the disciples’ **assumptions**, not just their emotions.
- Their lack of faith showed up not in doubting survival but in doubting Jesus’ care.
- They ran to Jesus out of fear—not out of trust.
- Jesus remained patient, present, and faithful—even though they failed the test.
- He did not rebuke them and walk away; He calmed the storm and stayed in the boat.

VI. Application for Us Today

- Storms are unavoidable:
 1. Family storms
 2. Marriage storms
 3. Financial storms
 4. Emotional storms
 5. Spiritual storms
- The question is never: “Will storms come?”
- The question is: **“How will we respond when they do?”**
- If we look at the storm, we will be overwhelmed.
- If we look at the Savior, our faith will remain anchored.
- God doesn’t calm every storm—but He is active in every storm.
- Every storm is a tool in the hands of a sovereign God to shape and strengthen us.
- Even when we fail, Jesus stays in the boat. He still rescues, redeems, and restores.

“Fear becomes our master when we assume God is absent; faith grows when we trust that Jesus is in the boat.”