

Full Transcription

Radio Host (00:00:16) - Today on light of the word with Pastor Ray.

Pastor Ray (00:00:22) - He believed his own word. Let's cross over. And when we get there, we'll face what's there. He's not worried about what's there while he's on his way there. But here's as we form this story, I'll be the first to say, you know what? I can't tell you how many times I'm worried about what's there while I'm on my way there. Rather than simply when I get there. I know the Lord's going to be there. We're going to see what the Lord's going to do. I'm going to ask him to be part of this. We'll come back to this.

Radio Host (00:01:37) – Do you find yourself afraid of the things that are coming. Do you struggle to enjoy where you are in life right now? Pastor Ray teaches you today that tendencies such as these are often the result of faith issues.

Radio Host (00:01:52) - He encourages you to go deeper in your relationship with Christ and to prioritize your faith in him. When you've gotten it right, you should be able to live each day to its fullest knowing that you're in God's will and that as such, there's nothing now or in the future to fear, for He's with you. Well, let's join Pastor Ray in the Book of Mark, chapter four for today's edition of Light of the Word.

Pastor Ray (00:02:19) - We're in Mark chapter four today. Anyone in need of a Bible? Mark Chapter four, We're going to cover verses 35 through 41. Maybe the title of your Bible will see winds and waves obey Jesus. My title here would be. The storms of life. Not sure if you've had any of them or in any of them. But here's what a passage for us today. So we've studied in the last three weeks here, two weeks coming into our third weeks. Jesus gave the parable of the sower and the seed and a rich study. That was then. We came in to the other three parables of the light under the basket and the seed that grows supernaturally and the and the story of the mustard seed.

Pastor Ray (00:03:14) - Well, today, here we come and we finish this chapter with us. And we ended last week in verse 33 and 34 as we covered four parables, which some people can say confusing. What does he mean by these things? But verse 33 of Mark, chapter four, he says, and with many such parables, he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. Verse 34, but without a parable, he did not speak to them. And when they were alone, he speaking these 12 disciples, he explained all things to his disciples. You know, we continually talk about the key to understanding our Bible and unlocking the Scriptures. And we talked about expositional constancy and we talked

about principles of first mention. Well, here is probably the greatest. Principle for understanding the scriptures. We get with Jesus and we simply sit with Jesus. We say, Lord, please explain this. The pastor did a horrible job. I didn't understand a word that he said. Would you please explain what does this passage mean? And a key again, because this is where God's heart always really is coming in, because we can compare disciples.

Pastor Ray (00:04:36) - We can compare these seekers who are coming to check out the show. Then we had the religious people with their religious hypocrisy, and here we see the observation. Here's what the Word of God says interpretation. Here's what the interpretation is. Jesus explained what the parable means, but here's what's applicable and very important for us, and that is that word application. Lord, What does this mean to me and how do I apply it to my life? Many people are hearing the Word of God at this time. Followers. What a show. Miracles. Exciting times. Religious leaders come in with their preconceived. This is what who he is and what what he's saying. Type things. And those two groups would miss the most important the application. How do I apply this to my life? But for us, we do observation. This is what it says, interpretation, this is what it means. And then application. Lord, what do you want me to do with this? How do I apply this to my life? And today we move into one of the.

Pastor Ray (00:05:46) - Greatest passages of scripture. And I'm not saying that to be theatrical. I'm not saying that to try to sensationalize something, to stir you like here comes this this moment beyond moments. But what I want to bring you to is this is one of the greatest scriptures in all the scriptures, because we're going to hear the word of God as he speaks in the storms of life. And I don't think there's one of us in this room that at some point need to hear that there's a God who can speak peace. He's still in the midst of a storm. He speaks to the storm. He speaks. The devil who's stirring this storm. He speaks so that the disciples can hear it. He still everyone. Be still. Let's read today's passage, verse 35 through 41. I'm reading from the new King James version. On the same day when evening had come, he said to them, Let us cross over to the other side. 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, and a great windstorm arose and the waves beat into the boat so that it was already filling.

Pastor Ray (00:07:09) - 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? 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. But he said to them, Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith? And they feared exceedingly and said to one another, Who can this be? That

even the wind and the sea obey him? Would you join me in verse 35 of Mark Chapter four. On the same day when evening had come, he said to them, Let us cross over to the other side. So if you can see over my shoulder, this Sea of Galilee Sea, Tiberius, also known as that there in the Capernaum area there, Jesus's home base, he's saying, let's cross over. We're going to see in chapter five that they're going to Gideon's also has multiple names to that city there.

Pastor Ray (00:08:15) - But the Sea of Galilee is about 13 miles from tip to tip and from the widest mark. It's about eight miles wide. The strip. They're taken as they cut through on that diagonal approach, if you would. It's probably going to be about a five mile journey to get to this point where we're going just to keep that. And so five miles is a long boat ride. Especially when a storm happens. Maybe you're in mile one of your storm. Maybe you're in mile two. We always say those things. Boy, doesn't it seem that we're either as Christians, we either coming into a storm or we're in the middle of a storm or we're coming out of a storm. But we definitely live in such storms of life. Well, this is the Sea of Galilee. Sun is setting. It's the end of the day. Evening had come, so it's probably sunset there in Israel. 4 or 5:00. Isn't that beautiful? You would just think this is going to be a beautiful boat ride. This is going to be a joyous time together as you look at that sea of glass.

Pastor Ray (00:09:25) - And it's technically a lake because it's fresh water. It's not butted up against the ocean, but it's called the Sea of Galilee. And we'll go along with that for them. And it's this beautiful glass, and you can just see it and you can oh, this is going to be a time to go. But before I start and before we move into the next verse, we know the story. We've read the story. We know a storm's coming. We know they're going to be in the midst of a storm. But the first thing in always what we have to always remember is we need to take God at his word before storm in the middle of a storm at the end of a storm. We need to take God at his word. He said, Let us cross over, not let us go under. Let us cross over. And that was the word of God. And when he speaks and he says in Romans ten, whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. You're saved.

Pastor Ray (00:10:16) - You don't need to struggle with that. You don't need to question that when you fall. You don't need to question that. When you find yourself in a dry place or a place that you feel that he's a million miles, who whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. If you call on the name of the Lord today, you shall be saved. He will receive you. You repent of your sin and turn from your sin. Repentance means to turn and follow. And you say, I'm following Jesus Christ. I'm giving my life to you. You're going to take my sin and cover my guilt and shame. You

took it upon the cross, and now I follow you to wherever you call me to go. And he will. He will take you as you are sin in all. And he will say, Follow me. Come after me, and he will put you in the boat with him and away you will go. And you shall be saved and you cannot lose that. Philippians one six.

Pastor Ray (00:11:05) - Being confident of this very thing. Taking God at His word, He who began a good work will be faithful to complete it. Wherever you are or whatever situation you're in, God will be faithful to complete what He's working in you. Take him at his word. Romans eight. Regardless of your situation, regardless of your marital situation, regardless of your employment situation, maybe even regardless of what you're struggling with right now. And you're saying, I hear all these things, but man, this is what I've been habitually struggling with. He's going to work these things out and he'll even take the bad things and turn them into good Romans eight. But read it through it and take him at his word. And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose, for whom he foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his son that he might be the firstborn among many brethren, verse 30, moreover, whom he predestined these he also called, whom he called these.

Pastor Ray (00:12:02) - He also justified, and whom he justified these he also glorified. When he said, Let's cross over. He meant it. And we take God at his word. And I want to say to anyone, and if you need to hear it and I feel maybe because this isn't in my notes, but I think someone needs to hear it today. You were justified by faith. And don't listen to the live of the devil. Who's telling you? No, you're not. Not your life. May you hear this word. He who began a good work will be faithful to complete it in you and all things work together for good. You are justified. And you will be with him in glory. So moving on to verse 36. Now, when they had left the multitude, they took him along in the boat as he was. And other boats were also with him. Notice that that they took him along in the boat as he was. Where we're finishing in this passage is, if you recall when we started this chapter, the multitudes were pressing against Jesus, thronging against him, and he continually had said, Keep this boat ready for me and I'm going to preach down here on the seashore.

Pastor Ray (00:13:18) - But at least I get pressed in, have this boat, and he goes out on the boat, he's on the boat and he's teaching from the boat. And so here they are there in this place on this boat. Here's a picture. Of what this type of boat would be. This is a fishing boat. They're on a fishing boat. They're holding 12 plus. Jesus. This is about the size of it. These boats are about 20 foot long, 22ft long. And whether I get this information is there's been some archaeological discoveries. They've pulled these

up from the bottom of the Sea of Galilee. They're in like a perfect condition if you consider 2000 years later, because they were encased in the mud and the air and the elements couldn't rotted away. But here's another one that was pulled up from the bottom of that Sea of Galilee and reconstructed. And so here's what it looks like, about 22ft long. It's about seven foot wide and it's about three foot deep. If you can get a picture of that.

Pastor Ray (00:14:21) - And one of the things I want you to see is there's these were there's kind of a platform on the front and there's a platform on the back. The back is the stern for you landlubbers. Those that don't know the seafaring terms, which I had to go and look up, which one's the stern, which one's the bow, which one's the port, which one's the starboard and those type of things. All I know is the rudders in the back. That's the depth of my seafaring knowledge. But the stern is in the back. Jesus is in the back, most likely just as the archaeological and historical writings tell us. And so he's probably on that platform. Or he could have been under the platform, but we'll get there in a second. He's in the back of the boat. He was teaching on the boat. And when it says they took him as he was, it was he's done teaching. He turns to them and goes, Let's go over, guys. So the boat's now on the move.

Pastor Ray (00:15:17) - And notice what we hear here is that in other little boats, boats smaller than this one are along with him. So this boat is ready to go under. You got all these other little boats ready to go under. So many times. We think we're in a storm all alone. And little piece missing that we never really see until we think these type of things through. You know what? There's so many people in the exact same storm that you're in, and sometimes you're afraid to speak about it. Sometimes you're afraid to come and ask for prayer over it or whatever it may be because you think you're the only one in this storm. You think you're the only one, as we'll read here, weaken the faith. Jesus rebukes them for their weakness in their faith at this moment. And you can think I'm all alone in this. Well, there's other little boats here, and we see that. And so there's that boat. I like that platform. There's some archaeological. So this is what that boat there looks like and verse 37 and 38.

Pastor Ray (00:16:28) - They launch out there on the road. They're rolling out verse 37 and 38. And a great windstorm arose and the waves beat into the boat so that it was already feeling. 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? So again, he's in the back of the boat. He could have been under that platform. And where the netting is in this pillow, it could have been sleeping under there, or quite simply, which most likely he's laying on the top of that platform. And so we can kind of wonder as the boat starts

filling with water, why isn't Jesus being awakened? Well, if he's on the top of the platform, he's not getting engulfed in that water that's filling the boat right now. What it appears to me, based on Luke's account, is that they're sailing, Luke says. They set sail. They're not rowing. You could row these boats or you can sail.

Pastor Ray (00:17:29) - And you see the mass there. It appears that they're using the sail. So they could have been steering with the sail rather than the rudder. You can see the rudder in the back of that boat. In any case, Jesus is in the back of the boat. He's asleep. The 12 are in the boat and it is being filled with. Water. What would you do without me? I mean, is that deep Bible teaching or what? Okay. No, I got, you know, it's just this simple. This word, as we see it, is being filled with water. There's 12 guys plus Jesus in a boat. It's being filled with the water. And here's what's the interesting thing as we read this. A great windstorm arose. We got this. A fisherman. Half these guys are fishermen. No worries. Keep sleeping on. Jesus, We got this. But then it comes and it says. And the waves beat the boat. Have you ever been out on the boat? And you can wave, start hitting.

Pastor Ray (00:18:27) - You know that sound. POW, pow, You know, the stirr seen, you know, there's movement coming, but they're like, it's okay, sleep on Jesus. We got this. We're fishermen. We've been here before. We've been in these storms. And then it was filling. At what point in the filling did they go? We got this six inches of water. We got this. This is common waves battering and coming into the boat. We got this. Remember, these boats are about three foot deep, six inches. We got it. 12in. We're good. 18. Oh, who's the first to say? I'm getting a little worried here. I don't want to be the one who shows weakness in faith or that I'm scared to feet. At some point they come to the realization it's time to panic. We are filling to overflowing. And here they come to the point we are going under. Then they wake Jesus. If you would, It's prayer time. I need to call upon the name of the Lord.

Pastor Ray (00:19:42) - It's time to pray because the water's at the three foot level. You know, Christian and I remind and I say to myself, you know, the time to pray is before you launch, what is it that God has you doing right now? Before you go into the workplace, before you walk onto your campus, before you enter into this project that you're taking on, before you enter into a ministry that God's called you. Maybe it's a Friday night or the Saturday ministry or teaching children's church. You know, the time to pray is before we launch. We just get with the Lord and say, You know what, Lord, I'm just looking to you. I'm asking you to be in the boat with me. I'm asking you to show your favor. I'm asking you to be join in what we're doing here. And therefore, you

know what we find. Not only are we going to see what we're called to do, but then we'll approach it and we'll do it in the heart, in the manner that God would have us.

Pastor Ray (00:20:32) - God says we're crossing over. They forget that and they start to panic. And the question has to be, how can Jesus sleep? How can Jesus sleep with the amass of when this is a mass of wind? This is like a hurricane windstorm that's going on here. Malls, high waves and water filling the boat. How can Jesus sleep? Because, you know, if I'm Jesus. I'm worried. What am I going to eat? That's one of my greatest fears every day. What am I going to eat today? We read not of Jesus. He's not. He's. He's perfectly content. He's fully asleep. He's not worrying about where the next meal will come. He's not worried about. Maybe there's demons on the other side when we get there and when we get there next week, there will be a demon waiting for him. Everywhere Jesus goes, there's demons waiting for him. Doesn't keep him up. Where the next meal or the. Or how they're going to pay for this or doesn't keep him up.

Pastor Ray (00:21:34) - He just sleeps right through it. He's not worried about the political leaders and the religious leaders who he knows now are in full swing plotting to kill him. He just sleeps on. No worries, no fears about that. And here he is. The crowds are swarming him and he's not in fear. Overwhelmed. How in the world am I going to meet all the needs of these people? It's exhausting. When I hit this next shore and all these people, he's not worried about that. And, you know, and he's not worried either. If you recall, when we entered into this, as we transition from chapter three, I'm not worried about my family either. They all think I'm nuts. They came to rescue him. He's. He's lost his mind. He's all he doesn't have time to eat and whatnot. And he's not worried about what his family thinks. You know, I. We can simply see it. He resting in the arms of his father. I know. My father's got this.

Pastor Ray (00:22:35) - He believed his own word. Let's cross over. And when we get there, we'll face what's there. He's not worried about what's there while he's on his way there. But here's as we form this story, I'll be the first to say, you know what? I can't tell you how many times I'm worrying about what's there while I'm on my way there. Rather than simply when I get there, I know the Lord's going to be there. We're going to see what the Lord's going to do. I'm going to ask him to be part of this and we'll come back to this. So Jesus is resting in the father's arms. You know what else? I think he's just spent out. When he spoke it that let your lamp. Shine. Let your light shine. Matthew five We transitioned out with the parable last week. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden, nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand.

Pastor Ray (00:23:36) - And it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. He's just totally spent out. You want to sleep good, Christian. You want a good night's sleep? Pour yourself out for Jesus.

Radio Host (00:24:08) - We're so glad you've joined us today for light of the word. Pastor Ray Bolas has been teaching through the Book of Mark, one of the four accounts of Jesus's life here on Earth. This book may be the shortest of the gospels, but it's filled with numerous accounts of Jesus's activities. Mark focuses on the servanthood of the Savior. Jesus was always helping others, willing to do whatever was needed. His love was practical. Now you get to be the hands and feet of Jesus loving others as he did. If you'd like to listen again to today's message from light of the Word, you'll find it online at ccaac.org.

Radio Host (00:24:50) - There you'll also learn more about this ministry and the church. It originates from Calvary Chapel of Anne Arundel County, Maryland. If you're in the area, you're invited to join us this Sunday at 10 a.m. for a time of worship and Bible study. You'll find directions to the church on our website ccaac.org or give us a call. We'd love to talk with you and learn how we can be lifting you up in prayer. Our phone number is 443 995 3282. That's 443 995 3282. That's all we have time for today. Thanks for tuning in for Pastor Ray's teaching in the book of Mark on lights of the word, illuminating the hearts of God.