

The Way of Jesus: Jesus Calms the Sea

Missy Carfield · Sunday, August 23, 2026

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

Summary

When the disciples faced a life-threatening storm while Jesus slept in the boat, His simple command "Quiet! Be still!" revealed that the One who rules the wind and waves is always with us, inviting deeper trust even when circumstances feel out of control.

Overview

Continuing through Mark, Missy walks the disciples' night crossing: a furious squall, a swamped boat, and Jesus asleep on a cushion. The "unnecessary" details — other boats, the cushion, taking Him just as He was — mark an eyewitness account (Peter's story). The disciples cry, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" Jesus rebukes wind and waves: "Quiet. Be still." Then they are more terrified than before — not of the storm, but of the One more powerful than the storm sitting in their boat. Scripture had said Yahweh rules the seas; this exhausted man on a cushion is simultaneously Lord of creation. Jesus' question "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" is not "try harder to believe." Faith is not conjuring confidence or treating God like a puppet who must still every storm our way. Sometimes He does; sometimes mysteries remain. Our weak faith does not change who He is. We stake trust in the One who is sovereign, good, faithful — and in the boat with us.

Key points

- Eyewitness details (cushion, other boats) show this is Peter's lived story, not a tidy fable
- The storm reveals who Jesus is — after "Quiet, be still," terror shifts to awe
- "Who is this?" — He does what Scripture says only God does with wind and waves
- Faith is not "try harder / never doubt"; Jesus is not asking for manufactured confidence
- Sometimes He stills the storm; sometimes He does not — He is not our puppet
- Weak faith does not change His reality; stake trust in the One already in the boat

Memorable lines

"He was in that boat. He is in our boat. He is with us."

"Someone who is more powerful than the storm is sitting in their boat."

"This exhausted man who was sleeping on a cushion is simultaneously the Lord of creation."

"Jesus is not saying try harder to believe."

"Faith is not determined by what kind of puppet we expect God to be."

"My faith doesn't determine his reality, who he is."

"Go with a faith in the one who is in the boat with you."

Takeaway

In whatever storm you're in this week, stop measuring God's love by whether He rearranges the waves your way — and put a stake in the ground: trust the One already in the boat, who is sovereign, good, faithful, and with you.

Source: Bay Point Church livestream / YouTube (auto captions)

<https://youtube.com/live/kN6XvGNj81M>