

# SEQUOIA NOTES

## Today's Sequoia Message...

### Overcoming Fear

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor  
January 21, 2024



### How do we overcome fear?

Matthew 8:23-27 (NLT) Then Jesus got into the boat and started across the lake with his disciples.<sup>24</sup> Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. <sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" <sup>26</sup> Jesus responded, "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!" Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. <sup>27</sup> The disciples were amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked. "Even the winds and waves obey him!"

- 1) **We don't need to fear because storms are part of life.**
- 2) **We don't need to fear because Jesus is with us even when we don't see Him working.**

<sup>24</sup> Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping.

- 3) **We don't need to fear because Jesus is in charge.**

<sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" <sup>26</sup> Jesus responded, "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!" Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm.

### 4) **We don't need to fear because we have an eternal hope.**

<sup>27</sup> The disciples were amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked. "Even the winds and waves obey him!"

2 Corinthians 5:21 (AMP) "He [God the Father] made Christ who knew no sin to [judicially] be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God [that is, we would be made acceptable to Him and placed in a right relationship with Him by His gracious lovingkindness]."

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NLT) All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. **Now we live with great expectation, <sup>4</sup> and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.** <sup>5</sup> And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. **<sup>6</sup> So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while.** <sup>7</sup> These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honour on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. <sup>8</sup> You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. <sup>9</sup> The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

### Have you put your full trust in Jesus for this life and the life to come?

**Big Idea: Trade your fear for faith and spread God's love to others.**

Galatians 5:6 (AMP) "For [if we are] in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith activated and energized and expressed and working through love."



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
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### Overcoming Fear

#10 of 10 - January 21, 2024

- 1) Last week we looked at Overcoming Unforgiveness. In what way did you apply this message? How has God been speaking to you?
- 2) Read Matthew 8:23-27. What is the **Context** for this passage? Who is the writer and the recipients? Where does this fit in the book as a whole? What are the circumstances?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in this passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about the passage? What is the major theme in the passage? Why do the Gospel writers share this story?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this for us?
- 5) What unexpected “storms” have you encountered in life that have made you fear?
- 6) Why does Jesus say the disciples “have so little faith”?
- 7) Read 1 Peter 1:3-9. What does this passage tell us about our eternal hope? How does this change our perspective on the storms we face in this life?
- 8) **Application:** How is God speaking to you today through this message? Where do you need to exchange fear for faith?
- 9) In what way can you spread your faith to others through acts of love?



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