



Message Series Guide



Aftermath

Week 4 – Miracle in the Aftermath

Mark 4:35-41; Mark 5: 1-20

The crises of life have often been compared to stormy seas. They come upon us whether we like it or not. They can be terrifying. They can cause us to question our chance of survival. Many times, when we face a storm, we just pray that God will hurry and make it go away. For us, a storm is a source of worry and fear. For Jesus, a storm was just a chance to find rest (Mark 4:38). Storms don't worry Jesus. He's right there with us during them, but he's perfectly calm. He isn't terrified. He isn't impatient. He isn't worried. We wonder why Jesus doesn't get up and do something. Many times, Jesus is less concerned about the storm around us, and more concerned about the miracle ahead of us.

READ:

Mark 4:35-41; Mark 5:1-20, Luke 19:10, 2 Corinthians 4:16-17

- When the disciples encountered the storm on the sea, how did they react? Why do you think the disciples woke Jesus up? What does it say about Jesus that He was able to sleep during a violent storm?
- After He calmed the storm, Jesus doesn't comfort the disciples, but rather scolds them for lack of faith. Why did you think Jesus scolded them? Why did He want them to have greater faith?
- Do you think Jesus knew they would encounter a storm by crossing to the other side of the sea? Why or why not? Why do you think Jesus was willing to cross the sea anyway?
- What was the demon-possessed man's life like (Mark 5:3-5)? How did the demon-possessed man respond to Jesus? (5:6-7) Why were the demons so terrified of Jesus?
- Was it worth enduring the dangerous storm for Jesus to reach the demon-possessed man? Why or why not? What was Jesus willing to endure to reach us in our sinful state?

DISCUSS:

- Have you ever gone to the Lord when experiencing a difficult circumstance only to feel like He was "asleep" or absent? How did that make you feel?
- Does the Lord always rescue us from the storms we face? Why or why not?
- Why does God let us suffer trials if He loves us? How do trials and "storms" test our faith?
- In what areas of your life are you tempted to respond with fear rather than faith?
- Describe a time when you had to endure a difficult situation in life, only to realize afterward that the only path to restoration was through the "storm"?

PRAY:

Pray that you will respond to the storms of life with faith and not fear. Pray for faith to understand that the God we worship is greater than the storms we face.

RESPOND:

Jesus can calm any storm in our life. But even if He does not, have faith to believe that the storm around us is preparing us for the miracle ahead of us.