

Sermon Series: In the Middle of the Storm

Sermon Title: Trusting the Greatness of Jesus

Passages: John 6:16-21 | Mark 6:45-52 | Matthew 14:22-33

Main Question: Can Jesus Help Me?

Main Point: Jesus is greater than your greatest problem.

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Sermon Notes:

How many of you would say that you have found yourself in a situation where you were completely out of control?

You don't have control over most of life.

So, what do we do when we enter uncontrollable seasons?

Can Jesus Help Me?

John 6:14–15 (CSB)

When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This truly is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

Therefore, when Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

John 6:16-17

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. Darkness had already set in, but Jesus had not yet come to them.

Matthew 14:23

After dismissing the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. Well into the night, he was there alone.

Matthew 14:24

Meanwhile, the boat was already some distance from land, battered by the waves, because the wind was against them.

Mark 6:48

He saw them straining at the oars, because the wind was against them.

Storms are rough moments in life:

- Issues you caused
- Issues others caused
- Issues that no one caused

Mark 6:48

Very early in the morning he came toward them walking on the sea and wanted to pass by them.

John 6:19

After they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea. He was coming near the boat, and they were afraid.

Mark 6:49-50

When they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified.

Mark 6:50

Immediately he spoke with them and said, "Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Jesus is saying, "Have courage! *It is me Jesus and I am the great 'I AM'* Don't be afraid."

What do we know about the greatness of God?

- We know that God is Spirit
 - He is not limited by time or space. He will not get old or die. He cannot be contained or controlled.
- We know that God is Personal
 - God has a name - YAHWEH - I AM. He is our Father. He speaks and can be spoken to by humans. We can know Him personally and meet with Him.
- We know that God is Alive
 - God is living. He does not depend on anything else to be alive. He doesn't need anything else to exist.
- We know that God is Infinite
 - He is not limited by anything. He is everywhere. He is all knowing. He is all powerful. He has no limits in where He can be, what He can do, or what He can understand.
- We know that God is Constant
 - He will never change. His intentions never change. His plans never change. His characteristics never change.

Matthew 14:28-29

"Lord, if it's you," Peter answered him, "command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." And climbing out of the boat, Peter started walking on the water and came toward Jesus.

Matthew 14:30-31

But when he saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand, caught hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

John 6:21

Then they were willing to take him on board, and at once the boat was at the shore where they were heading.

Mark 6:51-52

...They were completely astounded, because they had not understood about the loaves. Instead, their hearts were hardened.

Matthew 14:33

Then those in the boat worshiped him and said, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Main Point: Jesus is greater than your greatest problem.

Because of the greatness of God, we know that peace is found in the presence of our Savior not the absence of storms.

How can we be reminded of the Greatness of God when we face our greatest problems?

- Rest in Jesus' presence - stop moving so fast. Stop trying to come up with a plan.
- Praise because of Jesus' power - the disciples' praised when they saw the power of God at work.
- Walk in Jesus' purpose for your life - Peter knew that his purpose was to walk with Jesus - even if that meant walking on the waves. We are designed to walk with Jesus. Being with Jesus is the safest/best/most life-giving place to be.
- Lay down your life - Allow Jesus to be the Lord of your life.

Will you rely on the Greatness of Jesus or take on life, and all of its struggles, on your own limited power and understanding?