



Message Discussion Guide Week of April 21, 2024

Message: Walking the Talk, Part 3: Who is This?

Key Scriptures: [Mark 4:35-41](#)

Preacher: Tom Parkinson

Message Highlights:

In our technological age, we can predict storms before they even form, but we cannot control storms.

- Storms have a natural power that can wreak havoc, and there is nothing we can do to stop them.
- For all of human history, physical storms have been viewed as a symbol for the chaos and tumult we experience in our own lives.

When Jesus and his disciples take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, they find themselves in a sudden and violent storm, one that threatens to drown them.

The disciples are not in the storm because of a bad decision they made, but because Jesus told them to get in the boat.

- God leads us into storms because storms are God's laboratory. God uses the storm to teach us and help us grow.
- When you follow Jesus, your trials will become your testimony.

When the disciples realized that the storm was too big for them to survive, they did the only thing they could think to do...cried out to Jesus.

- They ask, "Don't you care?" That's what we often do in a storm. We wonder if God sees us, and if God cares about us.
- But Jesus is right there with the disciples in the storm.

In the moment that Jesus calms the storm, the disciple's fear shifts. No longer do they form the storm. They now fear Jesus – the one who has power over the storm.

- When you follow Jesus, you have nothing to fear...except Jesus himself!

Discussion Questions:

- 1.) What are physical storms such a good analogy for the hardships we face in life? Can you think of a time when you experienced a "storm?" What was it like? How did you get through it?

- 2.) Have you ever felt like your obedience to God led you straight into a storm? Why does God sometimes lead us into hardships? Why doesn't our obedience always lead to an easier path?
- 3.) [Read Mark 4:35-41](#):
 - a. Why does Jesus want to go to the other side of the lake?
 - b. What kind of storm was it? Why does it mean that it swamped the boat?
 - c. Why is Jesus sleeping?
 - d. Why do the disciples think Jesus doesn't care?
 - e. What does it mean to rebuke the weather? What does that say about Jesus' power and authority?
- 4.) Can you think of a time in your life when it felt like God was asleep? Have you ever cried out to God, wondering if God cares about you? How did God assure you?
- 5.) When Jesus calms the storm, the disciples shudder in fear of Jesus. Why? What does it mean to fear Jesus? Why is it important for us to fear him?
- 6.) What is your primary takeaway from this message?