

In the Boat with Jesus
Pastor Matt Troester
St. Paul, Matteson

On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." (Mark 4:35 ESV)

Jesus invites us to join Him in the boat, on the sea, through a storm, to witness His power to save. What kind of a Savior would do that? We understand why Jesus would have them get into the boat, but knowing that there was going to be a storm is the hard part for us to understand! Why didn't He spare them from the storm? Jesus has the power to stop the storm, and yet He leads them into the storm.

Do you ever feel like Jesus doesn't care? We wonder why God would allow bad things to happen in our lives. From our perspective it doesn't make sense. If we were God, we wouldn't allow this to happen!

On top of that, what is Jesus doing while the storm is raging? Jesus is asleep in the boat! The storms of our life are nothing compared to our all-power God! Jesus is more powerful than all the storms that rock our lives. In the boat with us through all that we go through, Jesus is at Peace. And so are we! When the disciples call out to Jesus, He stills the storm—immediately.

In the greatest storm of all, Jesus hung on the cross and the weight of our sins was being carried by Him. When He cried out, "It is finished," it meant sin, death and Satan's power over us was defeated. You are forgiven!

Who are you calling out to? Follow the example of the disciples and run to Jesus! Run! The storms in our lives remind us to come to Jesus in everything. There is no other power which can cure the effect of sin in our lives. No power but Jesus!

Dear Jesus, give us grace to trust You, especially when we come the limit of our strength and understanding. Remind us that You are always in the boat with us and that we should turn to You always. Thank You for taking the boat-load of our sins on Yourself when You died for us on the cross. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, gives us the faith to come to You in everything. In Your Name we pray. Amen.