

Why Are You Afraid?

(Townsend Press Sunday School Commentary)

LESSON 2 – June 13, 2021

Summer 2021 Theme:

Confident Hope
Unit I: Jesus Teaches about Faith

Devotional Reading: Psalm 107:23-32

Background Scriptures: Matthew 8:23-27;

Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

Print Passage: Matthew 8:23-27

Key Verse(s):

[Jesus] saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. (Matthew 8:26, KJV)

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[Jesus] replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. (Matthew 8:26, NIV)

Questions to Consider:

- 1. Why were the disciples so afraid during the storm?
- 2. What did the disciples ask the Lord to do and why?
- 3. What did Jesus say to His disciples about their faith?

Lesson Context:

- As Jesus came down from the mountain, He was followed by large crowds of people who had been amazed at His teaching.
- When they came to Him, Jesus ministered to their deepest spiritual, emotional and physical needs.
- Jesus decided that they needed to go someplace where they could have some peace from the crowds. He gave the order that they should go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (Matthew 8:18).

Lesson Aims

As a result of experiencing this lesson, you should be able to do these things:

- Consider the feelings of the disciples when a storm overtook their boat while Jesus was asleep.
- Identify the crises that cause adults to worry about themselves and their families.
- Respond to the promised presence of Jesus in bad times as well as good times.

LESSON OUTLINES/KEY POINTS:

I. Storms Come (Matthew 8:23-25)

Key Point 1: In following Jesus to the other side, the disciples face a furious storm.

Key Point 2: After doing all they could to manage the boat, and realizing the storm was beyond their control, the disciples awakened Jesus to alert Him of the danger they faced.

II. Seek Christ (Matthew 8:26-27)

Key Point 1: The disciples went to Jesus in fear and not in faith.

Key Point 2: Jesus has the power over every situation.

Lesson Summary:

- Storms will come upon us in this world, sometimes suddenly or gradually.
- Regardless of what these storms bring, we must always learn to trust God in all things.
- Storms strengthen our faith and equip us to be more effective servants for God's work on earth.

What Do You Think?

(These questions are found in this week's Faith Pathway student book.)

- 1. Take time to share a storm that came upon you suddenly and how you handled it.
- 2. Practically speaking, what must we do to experience peace amid life's most devastating situations—such as job loss, the death of a loved one, a terminal medical diagnosis, or bad news concerning a family member?

As a result of this lesson, I will do the following:			