

By Captain Justin Caldwell

The disciples were in an experience where they believed that they were about to die in Mark 4:35. The sea of Galilee was known for its sudden and ferocious storms and the disciples were most likely in a small open fishing boat with Jesus that day when one of those storms suddenly brought the disciples to a real sense of fear and desperation. They look back to the rear of the boat and to their shock and dismay, they find Jesus sleeping as "Easy as Sunday Morning," as the song goes.

They woke Jesus and asked Him, "Teacher, don't You care if we drown?" (Mark 4:38, NIV)

## 1. Yes, Jesus Does Care

During these days of uncertainty and indiscriminate fear, you may find yourself reluctantly wondering in your own prayers, "Jesus, don't You care?" It is best to prove that Jesus cares by pointing to the cross where Jesus went to show how much He cares. It is in reflecting on the pain, humility and utter vulnerability where the beaten and shredded God of the universe hung naked while

dripping the proof of His passion to see a world ripped apart by sin to be made whole again.

## 2. Faith is Key

Sometimes when storms start intensifying and turbulence is especially harsh, our faith can be found running away from us as fast as our fears are running towards us. It's in these times that we can pray as the disciples did in Luke 17:5 (NIV) when they told Jesus, "Increase our faith." Jesus replied in the next verse: "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you."

## 3. Jesus is With You in the Storm

There are over 8,000 promises in the Bible but there are none that are as frequent as one in particular. Five important words that we should carve on our shield of faith and hold ever so close to our heart: *I. Will. Be. With. You.* Jesus was there in the boat with the disciples—Jesus, who doesn't just have peace, but who IS peace. He is the Prince of Peace and was there when water and light and wind were spoken into existence. He who talks winds into stillness and with a word, a billion galaxies burst into being.

Much of the world feels alone and isolated in their fear during these days. God wants to remind you that you are not alone. Remember Jesus's very last words promised to His disciples in Matthew 28:20 (NIV): "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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