

**Oct 28<sup>th</sup> 2007: Mark series: The One Certainty in Every Storm: Mark 4:35-41**

**One miracle:**

That is our total focus this morning.....because it's a miracle that gives hope....

**For evry person here.....can be certain of this one thing .....**

IN LIFE.....exp storms.....Some small.....some massive

**Times of fear.....desperation....helplessness.....pain**

- **These storms of life vary in intensity and substance**

A relationship breakdown can really push you  
and loneliness can be an ongoing battle

**To loose** your job may be endurable at first.....BUT when the weeks pass.....  
Things start to become more and more impossible

**Then there's**.....

Problems with the kids.....Anxiety over your health or the health of.....

Financial issues.....addictions.....Betrayal.....Coping with grief and death

.....being bullied....discriminated.....harassed because of your faith

**.....the possibilities are endless**

**Even for the person** who thinks that they have life altogether.....**Storms** are a certainty

- **But for the Xtian**...this miracle highlights another certainty that pre-empts the storms  
THE CERTAINTY OF CHRIST BEING IN THE BOAT WITH YOU

**This is the ONE certainty in every storm**

**He was** there with the disciples.....before....during.....and after.....He is present with us

- **Mind you.....at first.....His presence was no big deal for**

In fact when they first set off.....they were confident that they were ...in charge/control

This was their area of expertise

They didn't need any help.....**they were doing Jesus the favour**

**He had just completed a monster of a day**.....

And this time .....rather than dismiss the crowd.....**He simply said to His**....Let us go

***Then v36 says: "And leaving the crowd they took Him with them, just as He was.."***

- **Just as He was**.....Completely exhausted →Emotionally, physically, spiritually  
**Is it** any wonder....that no sooner got in.....asleep on **the** cushion

**I can imagine those fisherman**.....Looking at Jesus with a smile.....

He can't hack it like us.....carpenter.....**BUT** we'll look after.....We are in control

### **Then the storm hit**

Suddenly with no warning.....**AND** what a storm

**Not only** were the waves towering.....**But** the wind was greater than anything

**The noise was horrific.....(Cyclone Tracey)**

And this same wind.....was forcing water into their boat in an alarming way

**All their expertise was useless**.....They could not sail their way out of this one

The only direction their craft.....Was downwards.....and with the amount of water coming in

**Bailing** the water out....was not going to save them.....But it was all they could do

And for that they needed every person.....**including** the man sleeping the sleep of...

**When they woke Him**....were they expecting Him to perform a miracle.....Teacher

**Or just** expecting Him to help with the bailing out.....?????

**I don't know**.....But what I do see here.....is panic and desperation

### **Iv'e never been in a storm like that**

**But I can** recall a time when I feared.....and I knew panic inside.....and all I wanted

Was the focus to be on me.....I Didn't care who else needed attention

**Those disciples woke Jesus**....and in their panic.....were quite rude to Him

The Greek says: ***Matters it not to you that we are perishing?***

But note.....**He never chastised them** for their rudeness...!!

- **Instead He got up**.....Rebuked the wind.....Doing all the damage.....said to the sea  
**Quite.....Be muzzled.....(Said to a rebellious child....Quite.....put a plug in it..)**

**The reaction to His Words was instant**.....The wind dropped .....great calm

***(a calm that was vital.....continual safety....for even a minor swell...)***

- **This is the greatest** expression of power....shown by Jesus.....so far in Mark's  
**The powers of Nature**.....so completely under His control

**Jesus showing the power**...that everyone knew.....belonged only to God

Consider the words of Psalm 107:23, 27-29

***"Others went out to the sea in ships;.....27 They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their wits' end. 28 Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress. 29 He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed."***

**After this we read that Jesus turned to the disciples.....**

And what does He see???.....**Not** a group.....rejoicing over their deliverance

**But people who were terrified**

Verse 41 says

***"They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"***

• **Suddenly they see that this Jesus whom they had chosen to follow**

This healer of sickness.....This one who cast out.....Who spoke with authority

This friend.....**Was God**....having instant power over the.....

**And it caused terror in their hearts**

**It was this terror Jesus addressed when He asked**

Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith ?

**After all that you** have seen me do.....Have you yet to realise who I am...The Christ

**How is it that** your trust is still in me as a man.....**Not** as the chosen of God

**Whose** mission can never be overthrown....by nature...man...evil

**Jesus had an expectation**.....that through their contact with Him....

their growing knowledge

**There would also be a growth in their faith in Him**

**And Jesus has this same expectation of us**

**When we go through storms**.....He doesn't expect us to have no fear....no anxiety

That is a part of our humanity

**But He does expect that with the fear**.....there will be a confidence in His presence

**A belief** that what ever happens.....His mission in our life cannot fail

**And that such faith**....Such confidence.....Will ever be growing

**Whatever storm** you may be going through....or facing at the moment  
There is this One certainty.....JESUS is with you

**Even if you are** yet to accept Him.....**He is** there waiting for you to turn to Him

**You can also be confident**.....that Jesus does not mind you crying out to Him for help  
Even if you do so.....with the desperation that these disciples showed

**There is however.....a challenge for us all to consider**  
**Are we** growing in our confidence in Him

Can we truly say....that as we learn of Him.....so each storm that comes  
finds us just a little more sure of his presence....A little more certain of His plans  
A shade more confident of His control

**Because that is surely.....what pleases our Saviour...the most of all.**