



Mark 4:35-41 (ESV)

35. On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” **36.** And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. **37.** And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. **38.** But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” **39.** And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased,

and there was a great calm. **40.** He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” **41.** And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

INTRODUCTION

In this passage, the disciples are following Jesus, moving toward the destination He gave them—“the other side.” Yet, in the middle of their obedience, a violent storm arises that threatens their safety and shakes their confidence. This reflects a truth we all must face—you can be in the will of God and still encounter storms. But this passage is not just about storms. It is about how we respond, and what we learn about Jesus in the process.

POINT 1 – GOD’S PROMISE PRECEDES EVERY STORM (Mark 4:35 ESV)

35. On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.”

Exegetical Insight

Jesus initiates the journey and declares the destination before the storm ever begins. His statement is not a suggestion—it is a purposeful directive. The outcome (“the other side”) is established before the difficulty arises.

Key Lesson

Before the storm ever formed, Jesus had already declared the outcome.

Application

1. When life gets difficult, go back to what God said.
2. Do not let present circumstances make you forget God's promise.
3. Stand on what He declared—even when you don't see it yet.

POINT 2 – STORMS ARE A PART OF THE JOURNEY (Mark 4:37 ESV)

37. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling.

Exegetical Insight

The phrase “a great windstorm arose” describes a sudden, intense, and dangerous storm. The Sea of Galilee was known for abrupt weather changes. Even experienced fishermen recognized this as serious.

Key Lesson

Following Jesus does not eliminate storms. Being in God's will does not mean life will be free of challenges.

Application

1. Do not assume difficulty means you are off course.
2. Stay committed to God's direction—even when it gets hard.

POINT 3 – JESUS IS PRESENT—EVEN WHEN HE SEEMS SILENT (Mark 4:38a ESV)

38a - But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion.



Exegetical Insight

Jesus' sleep reflects both His humanity (physical exhaustion) and His divine confidence. He is not disturbed because He knows the outcome.

Key Lesson

God's silence does not mean His absence. His presence is constant—even when He appears inactive.

Application

1. Remain grounded in prayer and trust, even when answers seem delayed.
2. Learn to rest in God's presence, even when you don't see immediate change.

POINT 4 – FEAR CAN DISTORT OUR PERSPECTIVE (Mark 4:38b ESV)

38b - Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"

Exegetical Insight

Fear caused the disciples to question Jesus' care, even though He was physically present. Their perception was shaped more by the storm than by His presence.

Key Lesson

Fear can cause us to misinterpret God's character and doubt His care.

Application

1. Replace fearful thoughts with truth.
2. Remind yourself of God's faithfulness—what He has done before, He can do again.

POINT 5 – JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER EVERY STORM (Mark 4:39 ESV)

39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.



Exegetical Insight

Jesus rebukes the wind and commands the sea with authority. The immediate calm demonstrates His sovereignty over creation.

Key Lesson

There is no situation beyond the power and authority of Jesus.

Application

1. Bring your concerns to God with confidence.
2. Trust that what you are facing is subject to His authority.

POINT 6 – STORMS EXPOSE WHAT WE'RE TRUSTING IN (Mark 4:40 ESV)

40 He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?"

Exegetical Insight

Jesus shifts the focus from the storm to their response. The issue was not just external—it was internal.

Key Lesson

Faith is trusting God in the midst of uncertainty—not just after the storm passes.

Application

1. Evaluate your response in difficult moments.
2. Choose faith over fear—even when circumstances are unclear.

POINT 7 – STORMS CAN DEEPEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF JESUS (Mark 4:41 ESV)

41 And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Exegetical Insight

The storm leads the disciples to a deeper realization of Jesus' identity and authority.

Key Lesson

God can use storms to reveal more of who He is.

Application

1. Ask not only "Why this storm?" but "What is God showing me?"
2. Allow your experiences to deepen your faith and relationship with Him.

CLOSING

This passage reminds us that storms are not the end of the story—they are part of the journey. They challenge us, stretch our faith, and create opportunities to experience God in deeper ways.

Many of us can look back and see how God has already carried us through difficult seasons. And the same God who brought you through then....is with you now.

So whatever storm you may be facing, hold onto this truth:

- God is with you.
- God is in control.
- And God will see you through.

When Jesus is in your boat—the storm does not get the final word—you will make it to the other side!

