

STATION 6: (fear and grief)

JESUS DIES

Scripture: Matthew 27: 45-50

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land[a] until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.



PONDER MOMENTS OF FEAR





THE DARK LETTERS

excerpts from Mother Theresa's writings

“Please pray specially for me that I may not spoil His work and that Our Lord may show Himself — for there is such terrible darkness within me, as if everything was dead,” she wrote in 1953.

“It has been like this more or less from the time I started ‘the work.’”

Then in 1956: “Such deep longing for God — and ... repulsed — empty — no faith — no love — no zeal. (Saving) souls holds no attraction — Heaven means nothing — pray for me please that I keep smiling at Him in spite of everything.”

And then in 1959: “If there be no God — there can be no soul — if there is no Soul then Jesus — You also are not true.”

“I utter words of community prayers — and try my utmost to get out of every word the sweetness it has to give — but my prayer of union is not there any longer — I no longer pray.”

REFLECTION:

THINK ABOUT THE STORMS IN YOUR LIFE.

***THE MOST COMMON REACTION TO A STORM IS
FEAR, FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN.***

WILL IT END? WHAT IF IT DOESN'T?

WILL I SURVIVE? HOW?

WILL LIFE EVER BE THE SAME?

HOW CAN I MANAGE IF THINGS CHANGE?

***WHEN THE DISCIPLES WERE IN A BOAT AND A
STORM WAS THREATENING TO SWAMP OR SINK
THE BOAT, THEY REACTED IN FEAR, JUST LIKE
WE REACT.***

**Why do you think they reacted in fear?
Was their fear of the present moment or fear of the
future?**

**FOR MOTHER THERESA
IT WAS THE FEAR THAT SHE LOST HER FAITH AND
THAT SHE WAS A
TOTAL HYPOCRITE.**

**IDENTIFY WITH
OR REMEMBER
A STORM IN YOUR LIFE.**

WHAT WERE OR ARE YOU FEARFUL OF?

***WERE or ARE YOU UNABLE TO LOOK AT THE
FUTURE?***

***WERE or ARE YOU STUCK IN THE STORM FOR A
GOOD LONG TIME?***

***DID or DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU HAD or HAVE
ANY CONTROL OVER THE OUTCOME?***

WHO IS IN CONTROL?

Interactive Directions

1.Fill a bowl with water.

2.Drop a piece of cereal like a cheerio, Kix, Chex, Coco Puff, or even a crouton or oyster cracker in the water. It floats.

3.Swish the water around. This is the storm and you are in your boat.

THE BIBLE STORY TELLS US THAT THE DISCIPLES WERE IN THE BOAT AND AFRAID

AND.....JESUS WAS ASLEEP.

Matthew 8:23-27

23 Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" He 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. The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

**WHO DO YOU IDENTIFY WITH
IN THIS STORY?**

WHAT DID JESUS SAY WHEN HE WAS WOKEN TO THE CRIES OF HIS FRIENDS?

HOW DID THE DISCIPLES REACT AFTER JESUS CALMED THE STORM?

As we reflect on This Station, "the death of Jesus," we have been able to connect our own experiences with those of the disciples.

They were afraid of everything that was happening to Jesus and to them, from the arrest to the crucifixion. And then Jesus died... and their grief was insurmountable. It seemed like there was not future, no explanation, no hope because Jesus was gone.

INTERACTIVE DIRECTIONS

1.CUP YOUR TWO HANDS AND SCOOP UP THE FLOATING CEREAL FROM THE WATER.

2.IMAGINE JESUS SEPARATING YOU FROM YOUR STORM AND HOLDING YOU IN HIS HANDS.

What does this tell us about the presence of Jesus in our lives as we walk through a storm?

CLOSING PRAYER

**Our hearts and spirits are led into fear by loss of hope,
feeling abandoned, and by an unknown future.**

**As Jesus' followers held those same experiences at his Crucifixion,
let us find as they found, hands and feet, and hearts to go forward in his
mission.**

**And Lord, help us to remember that the cross,
your cross, is our only source of hope. Amen.**

by Susan