

IN THE BOAT

Mark 4:35-41

Before Reading:

What's the most scared you've ever been? What made you so scared?

For Jesus' disciples' this is the moment. For most of them, they have spent countless hours out on the lake before. But it is dark and whatever storms they have faced before, this one is far worse. It is in this moment that they realise this situation is completely out of their control.

And Jesus is asleep.

"Don't you care if we drown?" (v 38) they ask Jesus. And it can be easy for us to ask the same question - Does God even care? Where is he in all of this?

Jesus answers this question in such a powerful way. "Quiet, Be still" (v 39) Not only does he care but he is also completely in control "even the wind and the waves obey him" (v 41).

Jesus then asks: "Why are you so afraid?" (v 40) This seems like such a crazy question. It makes sense that they are afraid. They almost died.

But then Jesus' next question helps to make more sense of what he is talking about. "Do you still have no faith?" (v 40) or in other words, "Don't you trust me?"

When the disciples look at the storm and how big it is, of course they feel fearful and uncertain. But when they realise they are in the storm with Jesus... it changes things. Who is this man? (v 41) The storm isn't too big for Jesus. He is in complete control.

And this is the comfort for us, we need to be reminded that although we are in a storm and life feels uncertain, we are in the boat with Jesus. He is in control.

The more we realise who Jesus is, that makes such a massive difference. And as we keep seeing in the Bible, and particularly in the lead up to Easter - we see just how far Jesus is prepared to go to rescue us from the storm.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do you usually respond when things feel out of control?
2. What moments this week have made you question whether Jesus cares for you?
3. How could remembering that 'Jesus is in the boat' help you in times like this?

Prayer:

Powerful God, when things seem to be out of control and uncertain, help me to trust that you are in control. Jesus, thank you that you promise you are with me in whatever storms that I face Help me grow to trust you more this week. Amen

