

# A Message from Godfrey

The disciples were worried, and seemingly rightfully so. The wind and the waves were growing and tossing their boat to and fro. The dark waters spelled out a treacherous demise if this boat ended up capsizing. All the while, Jesus, this one whom they have chosen to follow lie asleep in the boat. The disciples wake him and ask, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" (Verse 38) Jesus then rebuked the wind and the sea, creating a great calm surrounding their boat. He then turns to his disciples and asks two simple questions. "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" (Verse 40).

This story illustrates so accurately our disposition in the faith as we learn to walk with Jesus through life. Circumstances, the wind and the waves, capture our attention and cause us to lose focus on the things that truly matter. And when we worry and are afraid, we start to question whether Jesus truly does have what is best for us in mind. "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" It begins to feel like we are all alone when our gaze is captured by circumstances rather than by Jesus. The situation at hand is a rougher sea than we have ever experienced before. The waves are taller than we could have imagined. The wind seems to be relentless, with no hope of letting up any time soon. That family situation is just too difficult, that child is too hard, that co-worker is so hard to be around, that situation is just too much. The wind and the waves are always threatening.

And that will always happen if that is where we choose to focus. If our eyes remain fixed on the situations at hand rather than on our Saviour, our lives will remain filled with worry and fear. But if we look to Jesus who is in the boat, traversing the storm with us, we can be confident in his power and his direction in our lives. The situations of life and circumstances of life will continually present themselves full of trouble and trials. But Jesus is in the boat!

Faith is a gift and it is a choice. It is a gift given by the grace of God for us to believe beyond what our circumstances present. Faith is also a choice. We have the choice of whether or not we are going to believe in this Saviour who overcame the grave. We get to choose in the midst of the circumstance whether or not we are going to trust in the one who saves. The wind and the waves will rise up, but Jesus is walking through with us and his voice can still the storm. Are your eyes fixed on your circumstances or on Jesus? Do you trust Jesus no matter what your circumstance? Are you willing to choose to have faith?

Thoughts and Prayers

Godfrey

