

DEVOTION: "Jesus Calms the Storm"

TEXT: Mark 4:35-41

BIBLE STORY:

INITIAL SITUATION (Background):

Jesus taught His disciples and a crowd all day by a lake. Jesus told them many different stories or parables. Now it was evening. The Bible story is found in Mark 4:35-41. *(Leave the Bible open to the text as you tell the story.)*

BIBLE STORY:

That evening Jesus said to His disciples, ***"Let us go to the other side of the lake."***

So Jesus and His disciples got into a boat. They began going to the other side of the lake.

Jesus was tired. On the boat, Jesus went to the stern, the back of the boat. Then He went to sleep on a cushion.

A big storm came. Strong winds hit against the boat. The water from the waves came into the boat. The disciples were very afraid. They were afraid of drowning!

The disciples woke Jesus saying, ***"Master! Master! We are going to drown! Save us!"***

Jesus got up. Jesus said to the winds, ***"Be Still! Quiet!"***

The winds and the water became calm.

Jesus asked His disciples, ***"Why were you so afraid?"***

The disciples were amazed. The winds and the waves obeyed Jesus.

(Close the Bible and say, "This is the story of Jesus calming the storm.")

LIFE LESSON: Trust in God during storms in life.

Explanation: It was evening, probably dark outside. Jesus and His disciples got into a boat. A storm began. The winds were strong. The waves hit against the boat. Water was getting into the boat. The disciples were afraid that they were going to drown.

Jesus was not afraid. Jesus was asleep on a cushion near the back of the boat.

The disciples woke Jesus. They knew that Jesus could save them. So the disciples said, ***"Save us! We are going to drown!"***

Jesus spoke to the winds to be calm and quiet. The winds and waves obeyed. Jesus saved His disciples from the storm.

Illustration: A ninety year old grandfather rushed into his closet. He prayed. A tornado was on its way! Within seconds the tornado tore the roof off the house and scattered all his belongings across his neighbors' yards. The rains flooded what was left inside his house. It was all over within a few minutes, but seemed like hours.

The neighbors rushed to his house. They pried open his closet door and found him safely hidden with just a few scratches on his face and arms.

The grandfather trusted in God during the storm and afterwards. God helped him as his house was rebuilt and his life gradually was restored.

- Application:** In our lives today, we face many different storms, such as:
- Disaster of a tornado, hurricane, flood, drought or fire
 - Difficulties at work, school or neighborhood
 - Loss of a job
 - Health problems you have or a loved one
 - Sorrow of losing a loved one

Whatever the storm that you are going through, trust in God to help you through:

- His love
- His comfort
- His strength
- His wisdom
- His grace

Trust in God to give you peace and victory.

PRAYER: (optional)

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