



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Humility: Jesus Calms the Storm

Speaker: Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

Mark 4:35-41 (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

In the story of Jesus calming the storm, we see Jesus in a boat with the disciples. This passage begins with three important words "when evening came...". Mark writes these words because of the challenge of the moment. It was evening and Jesus had the disciples get on the boat with him. While on the boat, a furious squall came up and the disciples began to panic – they felt as though the world was closing in on them. It is easy to see this was an uncommon storm so the disciples were experiencing uncommon anxiety. They were so fearful, that they questioned whether or not God cared for them. At the same time, Jesus was sleeping on the other side of the boat – he was resting and sleeping comfortably. Jesus trusted in the care of the Father. He knew that the Father loved and cared for him, so He was able to rest and trust. Jesus got up and calmed the storm.

Like the disciples, right now we are feeling darkness in our world because of the COVID-19 pandemic – dealing with financial struggles, emotional instability and the darkness of anxiety. We are all in this together – whether black or white, rich or poor, young or old, whether you live in an apartment or a house - we are all in the same boat.

Two types of anxiety: situational anxiety (happens when we are on a job interview or asking someone out on a date) and soul anxiety (happens when we question the trustworthiness of God and whether or not he cares for us).

Are you experiencing soul anxiety? Peace! Be Still! Jesus wants you to know that he loves you and that he cares for you.

God gives us peace so we can be a presence to those around us. How do we get this peace?

- Found in a Person – the person of Jesus Christ, let His peace flood your heart.
- Found in Practices – spend time in prayer and silence; meditate on scripture; and become part of a community.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday Lead Pastor, Richard Villodas continues our series on Humility and talks about how we can receive the peace that Jesus offers in the midst of a storm, as our city continues reeling from the effects of COVID-19.

Sermon Questions:

1. How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. In your family of origin, who was the calm person? Who tried to be peacemaker in times of turmoil? How were your feelings towards that person during those times?
3. What statement does it make that Jesus slept through a storm, when all those around Him were worried? What does it say about his spirit?

4. What does it look like for you to be a presence of peace this week at home, on social media, on conference calls? How can your faith positively affect those around you?
5. You are here today because Christ has come through for you somehow before in life. What were those time(s)? What were you feeling in that storm and how did God bring you through it? How can you take that moment and apply it today?