

Jesus Calms The Sea

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- **Intro: pict.** Sea of Galilee western shore (parallel texts Mk. 4:35-41; Lk. 8:22-25)
 - **Matt. 8:18-27** Jesus calms the Sea of Galilee
 - **map:** Sea of Galilee
 - Jesus healed the centurion's servant and Peter's mother-in-law in Capernaum, take boat into the country of the Gadarenes
 - **pict.:** Rembrandt's rendering of Jesus and apostles on the violent Sea of Galilee
 - Bible: fierce gale, water swamped the boat, Jesus calmed the sea
 - 12' waves reported by one eye witness to break upon the shore, said of Todd Bolen with BiblePlaces.com in his Oct. 10, 2005 newsletter, regarding a friend — **pretend there, see and hear, fear, think going to die**
 - **pict.:** full-scale model Galilean boat - small boat in big storm, certain death if it had not been for Jesus
 - **pict.:** Sea of Galilee after a storm - rainbow
 - Jesus calmed the Sea - Peace be still (Mk. 4:39, KJ)
 - **Sermon:** Four lessons from Jesus calming the Sea of Galilee

- **#1 Apostles were following Jesus, but their faith should have been stronger.**
 - **The apostles' faith:**
 - **Matt. 8:26** Jesus said they were men of little faith — but (see next)
 - **Mk. 4:30** And He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" - **"still"**
 - **Matt. 8:18-23** the apostles not like others — they left family, friends, businesses and jobs — still lacked the faith they should have
 - **application: you can be following Jesus, and still not have the strong faith God wants you to have**
 - - **To have strong faith, you must totally and completely entrust yourself to God.**
 - **Matt. 8:5-13** Jesus heals Centurion's servant — **Matt. 8:8-10** nothing impossible with Jesus
 - **Matt. 8:1-4** leper's faith — **8:2** "If you are willing"
 - - **How do you increase your faith: (quick overview)**
 - - **Rom. 10:17** be convinced and convicted by God's word - unquestionably
 - - **Rom. 1:16; 1 Th. 2:13** let word work on your heart, change you
 - 2 - **Ja. 1:5** pray, ask God for help

- **#2 They were afraid because they had "little faith."**
 - **Matt. 8:24-26a** they were afraid, had little faith
 - **problem:** they had not put 100% of their trust in Jesus — faith
 - **Mk. 4:38** apostles ask, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" - not trust 100%
 - - **illus.: Matt. 14:22-33** Peter walking on the water, sank as his faith deteriorated - **Matt. 14:27-31**
 - **Peter not believe, trust**
 - **application, our task:** work to have strong faith, never doubt, be brave and strong as we put our trust in God
 - **illus.: Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me (#89), from Lk. 8:25**
 - **as we increase our faith we'll be braver,** to confront the stormy seas of life - take on life with confidence - to God's glory

➤ #3 Jesus was not afraid — His faith did not waiver.

- **Matt. 8:23-24** Jesus slept during the storm - faith God would take care of them
 - **Heb. 2:13a** And again, "I will put my trust in Him." - Jesus put trust in God
 - **Heb. 12:2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, - author of our faith
 - **1 Pet. 2:21-23** Jesus is our example, "kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously"
- **all the apostles could have slept**, if they have complete faith and confidence in Jesus
 - **attitude, state of mind - trust Jesus, God** — not have to physically do anything different
 - **today: peace and contentment is a state of mind (attitude, paradigm) — based on faith (trust in God) state of mind**

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- **1 Pet. 5:6-7; Phil. 4:6-7** cast care on God / prayer and supplication, peace
 - **Rom. 5:6-10** God's care for us - much more (vs. 9), saved by His life (10)
 - **illus.: If Jesus Goes With Me (#356) — sinking boat, storms of life**

➤ #4 They knew where to go to be saved!

- **Matt. 8:25** they asked Jesus to save them — **Matt. 8:26b** He did — **Jesus solution to problem**

- - **illus.: Peter walk on water**, sick, cried out to Jesus

- **Matt. 14:30-31a** But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him - **pretend**

- **Application: Jesus is the answer:**

- If you have a problem, Jesus is the answer!
- If you are struggling through trials, Jesus is the answer!
- If you are trying to find your way through life, Jesus is the answer!
- If you have unanswered questions in life, Jesus is the answer!
- If you need to be saved, Jesus is the answer!

➤ **Summary / Inv.:**

- **all of us have obstacles in life** we are trying to overcome
 - do not fear or worry — have faith in God, 100% trust God, don't be afraid - it will be okay
- **when you get ready to close your eyes in death**, these things won't matter. . . .
 - all that matters is that you are a faithful child of God
- **Jesus is the answer**
- **Inv.:** go to Jesus to be saved
 - appeal to Jesus for salvation - obey His commands - appeal when obey in baptism
 - **1 Pet. 3:21** Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an **appeal to God** for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,