

The Gospel of Mark

Part 10: Scared and Safe at the Same Time

Mark 6:45-56 • Pastor Dean Lancaster • October 14, 2018

Last week we read in vv. 7-13 that Jesus sends us to tell others the Good News.

We are his ambassadors, it is our daily job to tell someone how Jesus changed us and can change them.

In this passage Jesus sent his disciples out for another purpose.

Jesus sends us. (vv.45)

Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.

He knowingly sends them into a storm.

Sometimes we will find ourselves in choppy seas because that is exactly where Jesus wants us to be.

He doesn't cause the storms, but he uses them for his purposes.

Jesus sees us. (vv. 46-50a)

After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Jesus is praying for you.

Romans 8:34 *Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.*

Wherever you are, or whatever your circumstances, the Lord Jesus sees you.

John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

But we are scared.

Afraid he isn't strong enough.

Afraid he won't come soon enough.

Jesus saves us. (vv. 50b-52)

because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

He immediately calmed them down.

When you and I repent and believe Jesus is our only hope, we also receive peace in our hearts.

He stayed with them.

Grace is unearned blessing from God who owes us nothing but his wrath.

We have a tremendous capacity and we all have the overwhelming talent for not connecting one event to the next.

The disciples were taught that Jesus is powerful enough to save anyone, anywhere.

Take this with you...

Mark 6:53–56 *When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.*

As ambassadors it is our job to daily bring all those around us who are in need of spiritual medicine to the Great Physician.

Our opportunities to do this are rapidly passing away.

Ask Jesus for a burden for lost people and a sense of urgency so to remain faithful.

Have confidence that all who touch Him will be healed.