

What to do in the storm

Offer some sweets round - take one.

Matt 15

Re - tell story.

Paint picture of how disciples must have felt.

So, what should we do when we are overwhelmed by problems, difficulties & life?

Know That Jesus is praying for you.

What was Jesus doing up on the mountain that night? Amongst other things you can be sure He was praying for His disciples.

How would you feel if you came in this morning and you overheard Stuart praying for you. Praying good things.

Just imagine then if you heard someone praying for you but didn't recognise the voice, you peep thru the door - and see Jesus praying for you! He then tells you He is always praying for you; in fact He always has been praying for you and always will!

How would you feel then?

The fact is He is - Heb 7:25

Explain.

Unseen, unheard but constantly & faithfully praying.

Num 6

Be encouraged as well those of you who are praying for each other - you have a great prayer partner!

He is Lord over the storm.

Walked 3-4 miles on the sea - in a storm!

That's like walking from here to Ebbw Vale!

Psa 93:1-4

1 The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty;

the Lord is robed in majesty

and is armed with strength.

The world is firmly established;

it cannot be moved.

2 Your throne was established long ago;

you are from all eternity.

3 The seas have lifted up, O Lord,

the seas have lifted up their voice;

the seas have lifted up their pounding waves.

4 **Mightier than the thunder of the great waters,**

mightier than the breakers of the sea—

the Lord on high is mighty.

Wind & waves obey.

He is Lord over what is going on in your life right now.

Take courage!

What consequence should the fact that Jesus is constantly & faithfully praying for us have in our lives?

Take courage!

Even tho storm is still raging! Not stopped yet! Have courage in the midst of the storm!

Walk on water

It is I!

Who Jesus is is the answer.

It isn't a case of gritting teeth or trying to be brave

Not positive thinking

Not having a good self image

It is realising Who He is that will conquer fear and enable us to rise up in the midst of the storm

It is I!

I Am!

Yahweh

The Great I AM is with you in the midst of the storm.

Not the One who was or will be but One who is. Martha - if you had been here, my brother would not have died. **Jn 11:23-26**

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Jesus was challenging her as regards His "nowness"; the fact that He is the I Am with us right now. God unlimited, infinite & Almighty.

As Jesus asked, Do you believe this? It breaks thru our nice theological "God in a box" a day keeping Him safely at a distance.

For every situation we face, Jesus is the solution.

- Sin - His Name is Jesus
- Lack - He is the Lord who provides
- Sickness - The Healer
- Emptiness - the One who fills with & baptises in the Holy Spirit
- Temptation - the One who was tempted in every way just like us yet overcame & able to run to the cry of those cry out to Him
- Burdened & overwhelmed - the One who says, "come to me & follow me".

Then, knowing that He is praying for our blessing, safekeeping & experience of God's favour & smile.

Knowing the great I am is with us

We take courage - take it!

Take courage!

Take in just the same way you took some sweets from me earlier - take courage from Jesus today.

In the midst of the storm & He will enable to you walk the waves & overcome the very thing that threatened you & filled you with dread.