

The Sinking Ship

## The Sinking Ship



### Illustration Helps:

- A small boat / we used the boat we had constructed for the people melodrama that went with this theme series
- A small inflatable boat is another approach
- Put a few students into a small inflatable boat and use a squirt gun to get them wet. Simulate a storm around them. Get them into the action.

### Introduction:

Being saved/born-again does not eliminate storms in your life. I hope that we understand that salvation is not a way to avoid problems here in this life. Now, I know that it eliminates a BIG problem in the next life (our eternal life) so that is the really great news: And the fact that we will still have problems after salvation is not such bad news because we now have Jesus with us during our problems or storms.

### The Message:

*Read: Mark 4:35-45*

*35And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.*

*36And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.*

*37And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.*

*38And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?*

*39And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.*

*40And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?*

*41And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?*

**1.) Jesus made his intentions clear** – *Let us pass over to the other side.*

If the disciples had paid close attention, they would have understood that nothing will stop God or His Son, Jesus, from doing what they intend. Remember that everything that God's Word says is truth.

So many things were stated and prophesied in the Old Testament came to pass exactly the way it was foretold, right in front of their eyes! Jesus fulfilled every single Old Testament prophesy that was given about Himself. He did not miss a one.

What Jesus says, He means. He told them they were going over to the other side of the water. What part of that statement did they not get? They were not paying attention.

## 2.) Jesus made the situation dire

The ship was rapidly filling with water. It was now unstable and they feared it would swamp (sink). Many of these disciples were fishermen and they had used all their skill and knowledge to stay afloat, but the storm was too big for them. Their skills were not getting the situation under control and were not going to keep them alive.

Why did they wait until it looked hopeless to go to the Savior? Maybe I should ask the question to you. And there have been times when I could ask myself: Why did I wait so long to ask Jesus to help get me out of trouble!

When they did go to Him they asked a really dumb question: *“Master, carest thou not that we perish?”*

They were in a panic and felt that the problem was too big for even Jesus, God in the flesh, to solve.

How many times do you feel that your situation is hopeless? This storm proves that there will never be a problem too big for God.

What if they had gone to wake Jesus up when they saw the first storm clouds billowing up in the distance?

They may have avoided the storm altogether. It is obvious to us that Jesus wanted them to know that He had no problem with controlling any situation, no matter how big it looked. These disciples went through a severe storm and feared for their lives so that they would learn that Jesus is able to solve any problem and we could see that if He will calm their storm even when their faith faltered. He can do the same for us.

## 3.) Jesus made a great calm:

After His disciples came to him crying:” We’re all gonna’ die !” it did not disturb Jesus a bit. He was more concerned with the lack of faith that the disciples showed. Jesus got up and simply said :”*Peace, be still*”. As soon as He did the winds and waves obeyed Him. Jesus knew that they would, but His disciples did not.

If Jesus had come to earth in the splendor and glory that He had in Heaven then people would have had no doubt that He was in control of all things. In *1 Kings 8:27*, *2 Chronicles 2:6* and *2 Chronicles 6:18* the Bible says that” *the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee.*”

Always remember that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit make up one God, the One and Only God, and that our God is bigger than the entire universe that He created. If Jesus had come as a giant cloud of energy and power we would know that He is in control of everything, but we would be so fearful we would not have been able to approach him with our requests and needs. Instead He came as a helpless baby and made himself vulnerable so that we could approach him with our problems and needs. Then, little by little, Jesus revealed Himself to us and who He really is.

*Matthew 28:18-20*

*18And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

*19Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

*20Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen*