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## *Devotion for October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

*"And when He [Jesus] got into the boat, His disciples followed Him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but He was asleep. And they went and woke Him, saying, 'Save us Lord; we are perishing.' And He said to them, 'Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?' Then He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey Him?'"*

*- Matthew 8:23-27*

**If you have lived or vacationed around water, you probably know how quickly a storm can blow in.** It is not as bad on large bodies of water like the Gulf of Mexico or the Great Lakes, because you can kind of see the storm coming. On smaller bodies of water, like inland seas or lakes, it is much more difficult to see a coming storm, because of the trees and hills that surround them. This would be like it was for Jesus and His disciples in our Bible passage for today. They were on the Sea of Galilee, which is roughly 8 x 12 miles in size.

In our passage for today, Jesus was tired after teaching and healing the crowds. After He got into the boat He fell asleep, then a storm blew in, and not just a storm, but a great storm. The waves were so big that they were filling the boat with water. I don't think they had any lifejackets (I wasn't there, but I don't think they were invented yet). The disciples must have been pretty scared for their lives.

They made a great decision though - they went to ask Jesus for help. What did Jesus do? He calmed the winds and the sea. They had the one and only person in the whole world who could really help them, sleeping right in their

boat. It was like the winds and the sea knew who Jesus was. Wait a minute: they did and they still do. God the Father spoke the winds and the sea into existence at the time of creation. Jesus is the Word of God made into flesh. He was the Word of God at the time of creation. The winds and the sea were made through Him.

It is always a great decision to go to our Lord Jesus Christ when storms blow into our lives. Some of them we see coming and some of them come upon us quickly. In any case, our Lord knows the trials that we see in our lives as He has lived as one of us, yet without sin.

He is the Son of Man. But more importantly, He is also the Son of God and is always in a position to do something about our situation. In our Bible passage He helped His disciples by calming the winds and sea, and He calms the storms in our lives also. Jesus surely loves us and has saved our very souls for eternity and He is with us everyday until the end of the age and for eternity.

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, thank You for always being there for us. It is reassuring that we can come to You in prayer when the storms of life come upon us. We know that You care for us just like You cared for Your disciples in our Bible passage for today. Thank You, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*In Christ Jesus,  
Rev. John Kyle, Associate Pastor  
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