

# Do you even care?

(Freedom from fear)

November 15, 2021

**MARK 4:38 NIV - (38)** Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

Adrift in a violent storm that threatens to swamp and capsize the boat, the disciples look to Jesus. The "cushion" Jesus is sleeping on may have been a sandbag used for ballast or an extra seat used for passengers. Either way, it wasn't designed for comfort. But Jesus is exhausted. His short ministry has been characterized by crowds of people (**Mark 3:7-10; 4:1-2**), little chance to eat (**Mark 3:20**), and not much rest (**Mark 1:32-35**). Not even a water-logged boat rocked by fierce waves can wake Him up. Is it reasonable for the twelve to be afraid?

Yet, they awake Him, not necessarily expecting Him to rescue them, but to invite Him into their panic.

Today, many are experiencing "Panic" from financial stress to relational issues or even the loss of a loved one, we're all familiar with being in a storm. Our storms are like the storm that Jesus' disciples faced one night out on a boat. The wind howled. The waves crashed against the hull. And in the midst of their despair, Jesus was asleep in the back of the boat! The disciples wondered aloud: Does He even care?

My brothers and sisters in the faith, nothing could have been further from the truth. He was teaching His disciples that the One who slept in the back of the boat was also the One who would save them from crashing. He'll do the same for you too if you're willing to let go and listen.

In verse **(39)** Jesus got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. That's what He will do to our situation if you believe. Some want instant gratification. Maybe He will, maybe He won't. You might need to be tested like the disciples. Do you trust Him?

**CONCLUSION:** In short, we experience true freedom in Christ by knowing Him, walking in His ways, and engaging with the changes He makes in and through our lives as we focus on service to Him and to others. This freedom transcends the human freedoms desired in this world, providing peace in this life and freedom with Christ forevermore. AMEN

**SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 41:13**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** "I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear."

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"