

# Why Are You Afraid?

By Wayne Miller Mt. Juliet church of Christ Mt. Juliet, TN

## Matthew 8:23-27

Fears, Fears, Fears! They are a part of our human experience. Some seemingly are overburdened with them but no one seems completely free of them. With many, it is relatively easy to tell when fear is written on their face. An interesting thing about Jesus is that he never seems to have been afflicted with a single fear.

In our text, it was probably late in the evening when Jesus entered the boat to journey to the other side of the sea. Important to note the storm did not come because the disciples had disobeyed God, but came when they were obeying God.

The little fishing boat was 'being covered with the waves.' Mark recorded "the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was filling up" (4:37). He added that "Jesus Himself was in the stern asleep on the cushion" (4:38). Neither the fierce winds, churning waves, nor being drenched by the splashing waves awakened the Lord.

The disciples who were with the Lord in the boat woke Him and cried out, "Do you not care that we are perishing?" Jesus rebuked them, saying, "Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?" The word for 'afraid' means cowardly or fearful. The reason they were fearful was because they had 'little faith.' The word 'little' has more to do with the quality than the quantity of their faith.

The commentator, Matthew Henry, made this observation: "Jesus did not chide them for disturbing Him with their prayers, but for disturbing themselves with their fears." They had seen many of His miracles at this point, yet they were amazed that He could control the forces of nature.

For Christians, Jesus has come to help us deal with our fears. He is present with us in the little boat of our lives and can still say, "Peace! Be still!" to all our storms. William Barclay observed, "The meaning of this story is not that Jesus stopped a storm in Galilee; the meaning is that wherever Jesus is, the storms of life become a calm. It means that in the presence of Jesus the most terrible of tempests turns to peace."

A little icing for the cake of life: "I sought the Lord, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears! (Psalm 34:4).

## NEWSLETTER

### March 04, 2018

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## Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study 9:45 AM

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

No Sunday PM Service

Wednesday PM Bible Study 7:00 PM

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## We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

*There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.*

**Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during worship.**



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Sunday 8:00 AM

**Prayer List** *In our prayers let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

**Those that attend:** Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Darlene Reed, Butts & Edie Sumner, Chris Highway, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Joyce Cameron, Willow McFarland, Tahlia Willis, Logan Bennett, Kyra Kyle, Bev McArthur, Maria Swindlehurst, Jean Cameron, Sonny Stine, Marvis Garrett, Brenda Nelson, Diane Mellott, Heather Bennett.

**People in other places:** Renee Kinney, Tim Mellott and family, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Jack Openshaw, Betty Leistner, Denise Garlitz' grandchildren and her son Jeff, Mary Lou, Carol's sister Holly, Frank's niece, Tony & Eglia Grana, Susan Barrett & family, Karen Anstee, George Beckwith, Doris & Mary Jane Mess, Andrea, Red & Goldie Crow, Samantha Allee, Cheryl Wheeler, Cindy, Levi, Jeanne Johns, Lionel & Bonnie Weir, Loretta Gorito, Kay Ables, Mary Lou, Gloria, Linda Mudd, Dorothea Johnson, Tammy, Rita D, Jenna, Billie Jo Potter, Debbie Curry, Jaye Boyle, Barry Mitchell, Martha, Andrew, Vanessa Lewis, Jurek family, Mary - daughter of Don & Virginia Hipwell in Fenwick, ONT. , Williams family, Mary, Jean Fitzgerald, Mary Lou & Louise (Anna Brink's sisters), Malissa Layton, Th'alise Robinson, Ashley, Bill Fisher, and Noreen Andrews.

**Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.**

**Updates:**

**Bev McArthur** has been down with flu type symptoms. She has a persistent cough. She went to Urgent Care on Friday. She does not have pneumonia but was prescribed some meds for the cough.

**Jean Cameron** is dealing with some health issues and also dealing with a cough.

**Maria Swindlehurst** is dealing with an eye infection.

**Sharron Gantt** is still having trouble with her ears and also a cough.

**Noreen Andrews.** Word was received Sat night 2/24/18 that she was moved to rehab at Elderwood on Bailey Ave. Phone number is 819-1281

**John,** Maria Swindlehurst's brother in law, was taken to the hospital in Lockport on Wednesday. He has Huntington's Disease. He remains hospitalized in serious condition.

**Tyler Young's father** is in serious but stable condition in a hospital in Olean. Tyler is a former preacher here.

**Also**

Let's pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other problems.

Let's not only remember those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Let's remember to pray for our shut-ins and to call and send cards.

Let's pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let's pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let's pray for those who may be traveling.

Let's pray for the work we help support in Sardinia, NY.

Let's pray for God's people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let's pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

**Note**

As of Friday Leonard Amanatey was still in Canada dealing with immigration issues.

**Congratulations**

Brenda Nelson recently became a grandmother. Her granddaughter's name is Juliette.

**Welcome**

Glenn & Edna Mueller from the Sardinia congregation. Glenn will preach for us today.

Sun. AM Adult Bible Study 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians

**Sermon Topic Today:** God's Fruits of the Spirit are Producing

**Scripture Reading:** Gal. 5:22-23

No Sun. PM Bible Study

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 10 AM at the building.

Wed. PM Bible Study 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

**Trays Today**

Audrey Dailey

**Upcoming Events** *(Lord willing)*

**Mar. 04 Today.** Congregational Mtg. concerning Proposed Bylaws and nomination of men for trusteeship. If you have any questions or concerns about the Bylaws please put them **in writing** and give to one of the trustees before the Business Meeting on Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Mar. 10** Set clocks ahead one hour before going to bed.

**Mar. 17** Ladies Day Horseheads church of Christ Please see posting.

**Mar. 18** Men's Business Meeting

**Mar. 23** Ladies Devotional 6:30 PM Facilitated by Denise Garlitz

**Mar. 25** Congregational Mtg. to elect one trustee from men nominated Mar. 04<sup>th</sup>.

**From Carol Jones** (after a recent meeting with the V.A.) Posted on Message Board Feb. 21, 2018

Dear Brethren,

Upon further conversation with Veteran's Affairs it has been determined the need for toiletries is greater than our yearly (Christmas time) donation of hygiene bags. Our efforts will begin, Lord wills, to provide the small cloth individual bags every two or three months depending on how often they are filled.

The other area that was shared by the representative from the V.A. is their care and provisions supplied to the homeless population that visits their site. Therefore we are also requesting that larger (16-24 oz.) bottles of shampoo, conditioner and body wash be purchased as well. May God's love and beauty be seen in this endeavor. If you have any questions please see Carol. Blessings.

Please check the "Love One Another" and "Answered Prayers" boards in the back of the auditorium.