

When the Wind Blows

*"Immediately Jesus **made his disciples get into the boat** and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd" (Mark 6:45).*

In today's passage, Jesus told His disciples to get into a boat and go ahead of Him to Bethsaida while He remained behind, dismissed the crowds and went to pray on the mountainside (Mark 6:46).

As the story progresses, we see that later that night, the boat was only in the middle of the lake and the disciples were straining with rowing because the wind was against them. They had been out there a while and had only reached the middle of the lake. Those must have been some winds! By verse 48 -it wasn't until dawn when He went out to them. What a long night they had!

Remember it says, "He told his disciples to get into the boat and go ahead of him." Their place is to be exactly where it was- on the boat where Jesus told them to go. Sometimes the Lord places you in hard places. The disciples were struggling against the winds that were blowing against them, winds that were trying to blow them off course.

Do you feel like something is trying to blow you off course? I don't know what kind of winds you've been struggling through, but I know He holds you in His capable hands. I also know, no one is exempt from the storms of life.

The idea that God allows the winds to happen is hard to accept. I wrestle with how it just doesn't make sense for a loving God to allow us to suffer. It's in these times I have to remind myself that Jesus told us that we will have tribulation. It's in these times that I grab tightly to the facts that because of Jesus I can overcome (John 16:33). It helps me trust Him in the storms.

What kind of winds are blowing against you? Are you losing hope? Are you having trouble getting past that person who hurt you, the loss of a job or a situation that seems to be crushing you under the weight of it?

Just like the disciples, you are where you are because it's where Jesus wants you. Your place is to be exactly where it is- in that situation where you are. You can overcome anything by keeping your eyes on Him. If you focus your eyes on Him and not look at things or other people!

He is in all things at all times. He holds all things together. He HOLDS THEM!! You are going to have challenges throughout life and sometimes those challenges are because you got into a boat that Jesus asked you to. "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down" Mark 6:51

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