

(Food for thought)

Gospel: Mark 4: 35-41.

Moving from Fear to Faith



In this week's Gospel is a perfect example of the process of the faith journey. Jesus invites the disciples to "go across to the other side" of the lake. The response: "they took him with them in the boat."

Discipleship is fundamentally a life of faith - which is not the same as belief. Faith is a deep, bedrock trust in God's presence in the world, in the person of Jesus and in our lives. When the storms of life whip up we come to the truth of just how deep is our faith. Life is full of overwhelming waves - even for experienced sailors or fishermen.

Our God knows that if we spend all of our lives reacting fearfully to life's storms, we will never know the fullness of life in Him. God is always with us - that is a fact. But do we trust deeply? Can we ride out life's storms by trusting the quiet, still presence of God that is beneath the surface of the storm. That is faith.

The Gospel of Mark always encourages us to place our trust in Christ, whose suffering and death give meaning to our lives. We don't have to experience the challenge of discipleship, if we don't want to. But if we choose to follow Jesus then there will be power for us, the power of the cross and the power of service.

"God took the strength of a mountain, The majesty of a tree, The warmth of a summer sun, the calm of a quiet sea; the Generous soul of nature, The comforting arm of night, The wisdom of the ages, The power of the eagle's flight. God combined all these qualities and He knew His masterpiece was complete and He called it "Dad!"

Happy Father's Day!

