**Miracles 2 – Through Troubled Waters**

**HOOK**

**1. How has Covid19 affected your life the most? A) Entertainment closures; b) Travel restrictions; c) school closures; d) church closure; e) grocery shopping deficits?**

**2. What’s your stress level these days? Red, yellow or green?**

**3. How long do you think your family could survive on the food you have in your house?**

**BOOK Read Mark 4:35-41**

**35That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let’s go over to the other side.” 36Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. 37A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 38Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” 39He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. 40He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” 41They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”**

**4. In Mark 4:38, when Jesus was sleeping while the disciples were bailing water out of their boat, “The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”**

**What would you have said to Jesus in that situation?**

**5. In light of the fact that “the other side” refers to going to the place where unbelievers live, how might the disciples have interpreted the wind and waves? (as a bad omen; as spiritual opposition) Does being a Jesus follower give you a pass on the storms of life?**

**6. After Jesus rebuked the wind and quieted the waves, it was completely calm. Mark 4:40 “He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” What do you think Jesus might say to the church these days?**

**Read Mark 6:47-51.**

**Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.47Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. 48He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, 49but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, 50because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It’s I. Don’t be afraid.” 51Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, 52for they hadn’t understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.**

**7. If waters are symbolic of untameable evil and chaos in the Hebrew mind, what might Jesus walking on the waters help his disciples understand?** (Jesus has authority over evil forces. Jesus started walking around on the water like he made the place – which he did!)

**8. What’s a big difference between these two storm stories?** (In the first story, Jesus was on the boat. In the second story, Jesus wasn’t on the boat.)

**9. While Jesus was praying, Jesus “saw the disciples straining at the oars”. How does it encourage you that Jesus is praying for you?** **Rom. 8:34: “Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.”**

**10. Why do you think Jesus said: “It is I” instead of “It’s me” to the disciples?** (“It is I” is a reflection of the Greek wording – ego eimi – which is a way of revealing Jesus is the “I AM” of Israel – God Himself.)

**Took**

**What gives you peace in these troubled days? Read Psalm 4:8; Phil. 4:6,7 and Psalm 46:10.**

**How does the fact that Jesus slept through a storm help you sleep through anxious moments?** He’s in control of the Covid19 virus, oil prices, the stock market, your job, your family, and your health. He’s got everything you’re worried about in his hands. The church won’t fail because Jesus is at the wheel and he’s smiling at us.

**Would you rather go through the storms of life with Jesus or sail smoothly through life without Him? Is there any need you or your family has that our group can practically care for?**

**What is your biggest prayer need these days? How can you invite Jesus into that situation?**

 ***1 Peter 5:7***: **“Cast all your cares on Jesus because He cares for you.”**