

Mt Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church

Sunday School Lesson

11.16.2025

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that which he would have you to see through the study of God's word that we share.

Jesus Calms A Storm

Mark 4: 35 - 41

As believers, how do we find peace. We find peace by surrendering completely unto God, trusting that it is his power that has the authority over any and all chaos in our life. Now, although at times our worldly doubt will cause us to question our faith in Christ, one thing that we must remember is that even though we are still growing in our faith, we recognize Gods divine control in our life, knowing that we can do all things through him for he is the one who gives unto us our strength. Therefore, when we find ourselves raging inside, we are encouraged with the promise of peace, which God provides unto us through his word, but only if we will trust in him completely to take care of us. Now, Gods peace is something that we experience in our heart, it is not something that is dependent upon the circumstances in our life, nor is it achieved through our actions or our interactions with others. Gods' peace is a divine gift that we can only experience if we embrace it, and when we begin to understand this concept, it will produce a stillness in our heart, for now we are beginning to acknowledge who God really is.

Isaiah 43: 1 – 3,....fear not, for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name, thou art mine....when thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee, and through the rivers, thou shalt not overflow thee, when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee....for I am the Lord thy God....thy savior....

As believers, through Gods word, we are given a message of assurance concerning our relationship with him. For Gods word is a reminder unto us that he is the one who created us, and he is the one who redeems us, which signifies that he knows us individually and personally, claiming us for his own, therefore, we are not defined by the circumstances in our life, but we are defined by our relationship with him. Now, despite our unbelief, despite our lack of faith and trust, despite our disobedience to his word, God has never forsaken us. Therefore, we are not to fear, for even though we were dead in our trespasses and sins and eternally separated from him, he has redeemed us with the precious blood of his Son, Christ. We have been bought with a price, and that price has been paid in full.

John 16: 33,....ye might have peace....In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world....

Those who are true followers of Christ will face tribulations and hardships in life. These hardships will bring about sufferings and pain, but rest assured that we will find peace and encouragement in knowing that God, through his Son, has guaranteed unto us victory through Christ, triumphing over sin, and assuring us that he will provide unto us peace of mind. This means that even though we will have troubles in our life in Christ, we are not defeated, for we know that our hope and our peace is rooted and grounded in him.

Mark 4: 35 – 36,....when....even was come....he saith....let us pass over unto the other side....sent away the multitude, they took him....he was in the ship....there were also with him other little ships....

So, what is the spiritual significance of passing over unto the other side. God would have us to move beyond our limitations unto a new level of faith and purpose in him. He wants us to move out of our worldly state of doubt, which is due to the struggles in our life, for it is his desire that we should grow spiritually into a greater relationship with him. In order to do this, often time, we must not only face the unknown, but we must embrace it with the confidence that has been given unto us by the his indwelling Holy Spirit. Passing over is all about moving into a new pathway in our own life, one that is more challenging to our faith, making a greater impact on our life in Christ, one that will give greater glory unto God

Ephesians 4: 22 – 24,....put off concerning....the old man....be renewed in the spirit of your mind....put on the new man....which after God is created in righteousness....

The renewing of our inner self is a huge part of our life as a believer, and it must be a continuous process in our life in Christ. Embracing our new self means to be transformed by the indwelling Holy Spirit into a new way of thinking that is aligned with Gods purpose and plan and will for all of mankind, and is only accomplished through our active participation as we spend our time in prayer and in God's word.

So, who or what do the little ships represent. As believers within the body of Christ we are not the only ones experiencing the storms of life, and even though we may not be the on the same ship as others, so to speak, we are still impacted by Gods work in some of the same ways. Therefore, no one is alone in their struggles, we are all facing similar challenges and adversities in our life, which is a test of faith and spiritual growth, so that the entirety of the community of faithful believers might be drawn together through the grace, mercy, and love of God.

Mark 4: 37 – 39,....he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep....and they awake him, and say....master, carest thou not that we perish....he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, peace be still....the wind ceased, and there was a great calm....

There will always be sudden, overwhelming situations in our life that we cannot control on our own, which shows unto us our need to rely upon a power that is far greater than our own. This test of our faith, which often time reveals our lack of faith, is a reminder that even when we are afraid, we can cry out to a merciful God for help, and he has the power to bring a peace and a calmness into our life. So, what do we learn from this, we learn that our faith in Christ is never misplaced.

Philippians 3: 9,....be found in him, not having my own righteousness....but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith....

As believers, we are found in Christ, covered by his righteousness, it is a gift that we receive by our faith, for it is not earned by our human works or merits, it is achieved through our obedience to Gods word. Our faith is a matter of trusting in what Christ has done for us; therefore, we are not just associated with him, we are alive in him and declared righteous in the eyes of God. Our works (mans works) will never be significant enough to cover sin, so we can only know God by our faith in his Son, Christ, anything else that we rely upon or take pride in will only hinder our fellowship with God.

Mark 4: 40 – 41,....he said unto them, why are you so fearful, how is it that ye have no faith....they feared exceedingly, and said....what nature of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him...

The characteristic of Christ reflects his divine authority, which serves as an invitation for us to follow after his example, which means that we should follow after him. Therefore, it is an invitation unto us as believers to seek to understand his divine nature, so as to become more like him. Not only does this encourage us to question what kind of person he is, but it also encourages us to question what kind of person we are in him. Christ is the perfect example of God's love for the believer to follow; therefore, we must strive to develop his divine virtues in all aspects of our life. Christ life provided for us a standard for righteous living, so, what does following Christ mean unto us. It means showing our faith with works, it means showing spiritual maturity in our relationship with God, it means showing patience and humility, love and compassion, through our service unto others. It means trusting in God above all else, allowing him to calm the storms of our life as we move beyond our limitations into a greater faith and purpose in him. It is our call to live with the mind of Christ, in his likeness, showing unto others the same love and compassion that he has shown unto us. Keeping our faith, through our obedience in the word of God gives unto us the awareness of knowing that Christ is in every storm with us, giving unto us the peace of mind that surpasses all understanding.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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