



GATEWAY
CITY CHURCH

THE WILD Part Six: “INTO THE STORM”

MARK 6: 45-56 NASB

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the crowd away. 46 After bidding them farewell, He left for the mountain to pray.¹¹⁷ 47 When it was evening, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land.

Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them. 49 But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out; 50 for they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, “Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid.” 51 Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they were utterly astonished, 52 for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

When they had crossed over they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored to the shore. 54 When they got out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, 55 and ran about that whole country and began to carry here and there on their pallets those who were sick, to the place they heard He was. 56 Wherever He entered villages, or cities, or countryside, they were laying the sick in the market places, and imploring Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched it were being cured.

LESSONS FROM MARK 6:

- Sometimes God will send you _____ the storm

“WE WON’T SEE GOD IN OUR LIVES _____”

Verse 45 *“Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him”*

Verse 47 *“When it was evening, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land. 48 Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He *came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them.*

- God loves you so much He'll give you a _____

Verse 52 *“for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.”*

- God's _____ is on the other side of that storm

Verse 53 *“When they had crossed over...”*

WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU INTO THE STORM:

1. Your _____

- ✓ *When going through a tough time, don't switch off your faith!*

2. A willingness to _____ the season

- ✓ *When going through a tough time, don't switch off your faith!*

3. Your _____

Isaiah 61:3 KJV

“...appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness.”

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“THE WILD”

Part 6 – “INTO THE STORM”

Life Group Discussion Questions

This past Sunday’s topic challenged us to overcome in the storms of life. Have you gone through any storms lately? Every day we hear of people battling the storms of health issues, financial set-backs, job loss, or even losing a loved one.

This last Sunday’s example of a storm was Jesus leading His men out to sea, and the waves almost destroyed them.

- Why do you think Jesus led them into the storm?

MY STORY – How about you? As you look back at your own life, what are some of the storms that you have gone through? Can you look back and see the hand of God directing, helping, and delivering you from those storms?

DIGGING DEEPER – Why does God allow the storms?

Everyone faces challenges, difficulties, and storms in life at one point or another. It causes us to ask questions such as:

- ✓ “Why God, why the storms?”
- ✓ “Did my sins and mistakes cause these storms?”
- ✓ “Has God forsaken me? Is He sending judgment?”

In this lesson we’ll look at a few key scriptures which will give us insight as to why we experience the storms.

God’s love and promises – our starting point

Whenever we discuss life’s challenges we always start with God’s absolutes, which never change. For example:

- ✓ God loves you and has a plan for your life. (Jeremiah 29:11)
- ✓ He will never leave you or forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5)

- ✓ He works all things for your good. (Romans 8:28)
- ✓ He will finish what He has started in your life. (Philippians 1:6)

We encourage everyone to gain a firm grasp of these four promises. That way, when the storms arise, your life will be built on the rock of Jesus.

Why the storms?

1. To purify our faith - 1 Peter 1:7

Peter shows us that our trust in God is purified as gold is purified. When you heat gold, all the impurities rise to the top so they can be removed. You end up with pure gold. Many times we find unbelief and doubt in our hearts that need to be removed so we end up with true trust in God.

- What other “impurities” rise up in our hearts when our faith is tested?

2. We develop endurance and character – Romans 5:3-6

Paul teaches us that life’s pressures develop endurance and character. Just as an athlete trains and builds his or her endurance, life’s trials work in us the ability to stay strong for the long run of the Christian life.

- How have the pressures of life made you stronger?

Our response to the storms.

1. We’re to consider life’s challenges a joy! (James 1:3)
2. We’re to stay confident, trusting God. (Hebrews 10:35-37)
3. We’re to continually keep our eyes on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2)

Prayer and power activation

- As a group spend time in prayer for each person and encourage them if they are currently facing any storms in their life.
- Pray and discuss how you can share this lesson with others who perhaps don’t go to church or know the Lord.