

October 21, 2018
Unexpected Crisis
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Mark 4:35 - 41 and Matthew 8:23 - 27

Remember that God is *with you*.

Isaiah 43:1-5

Rest in God's *provision*. (CARE).

1 Peter 5:7 John 11:33-35 Ro 8:28

Rely on God's *providence*.

Mark 4:39 Jeremiah 32:17

It has been said that everyone is either entering a crisis, in the middle of a crisis, or leaving a crisis. Life is actually one crisis after another.

How do you feel about those statements? How do they resonate with you?

Share a time when you experience a really bad storm. What was it like and how did you get through it?

Read Mark 4:35 - 41 and Matthew 8:22 - 27

Imagine that you are one of the disciples in the boat.

What questions would have come to your mind as you are sitting in a boat that is getting capsized? What statements do you think were made by the disciples that were not recorded by the gospel writers?

What reason might there be for this particular storm coming at this particular time to these particular people?

What if your reaction to Jesus' pointed question about faith? As believers what part does faith play in any crisis?

Storms in life have a tendency to bring to the surface the deep truths in our lives. Storms can test us.

Read Job 37:6 and Job 37:10-13 and Psalm 148:7-8

According to these verses, who gets the credit for storms?

How does it sit with you to know that God is the author of extreme weather?

According to these scriptures, what are some of the things that God accomplishes through storms and other severe weather?

Read James 1:2 - 4

Even though none of us likes to be in a crisis, the Bible seems to indicate that tough times are linked to purpose.

How have you seen a crisis make someone stronger, more resilient, or more mature?

How can our view of difficulties change if we have a godly and Biblical perspective? How can we avail ourselves more to allow God to work His will during a crisis?

Sometimes a crisis is of our own making. Our choices can greatly determine when we enter a crisis and its severity.

King David's choice with Bathsheba and her husband brought him into crisis.

Read Psalm 51 and consider what David had done.

In what ways do you see David's growth even in this crisis of his own making?

What does it take for a guy like to David to get to the point of growth in this crisis?

What might be the first or second step for anyone who is in a crisis of their own making?

Consider your own life and a crisis you might be facing. What can you do personally to allow God to work in you during this time of trial? What would Jesus want to say to you as He steps in to calm the waters? What might need to change so that you fully rely on God at this time?