

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE  
SERMON OUTLINE**

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MARCH 18, 2018**

**“Lessons Learned from the  
STORMS OF LIFE”**

**Mark 4:35-41**

In this 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of Mark, we have learned many parables like: the Sower and the Seed, The Growing Seed and the parable of the Mustard Seed. Jesus is now about to leave Galilee and make His first excursion into Gentile territory of Decapolis (5:1, 20).

Now here is the **QUESTION** about this passage of the storms of life. “When you face the storms of life”, do you **fearfully** focus on the storm, or do you **faithfully** focus on the Savior?

Let’s learn five lessons on how you can “faith the storms of life”. Lesson number one is:

**I. YOU CAN BE CLOSE TO JESUS AND STILL  
ENCOUNTER STORMS**

Sometimes people who know and love the Lord think they should be exempt from stormy experiences of life. Some Christians make the mistake of thinking that just because they have the Lord in their life that they will be immune to trouble, tribulation, and problems. Remember that Jesus was in the boat when the storm struck. (V-37)

**II. JESUS PERMITS STORMS TO TEST OUR FAITH**

When the disciples awoke Jesus He immediately asked them two questions in V-40. God tests our faith in order to purify our faith. The Bible says in 1 Peter 1:7.

- ♦ **The pressure test-** This faith test has one question: How will you handle stress when you are at your absolute limit?
- ♦ **The people test -**Sometimes God puts people in your life who will stretch your faith.
- ♦ **The persistence test-** This test asks the question, “Will I maintain my commitments, or will I quit?”

**III. STORMS FORCE US TO CRY OUT TO JESUS**

When they woke Jesus up, they asked him, “Don’t you care if we drown?” (v-38) They weren’t afraid of the storm, they were afraid of drowning.

Have you ever thought that or said to God when you’re going through a storm? “*God, don’t you care that I’m going through a tough time?*” (1 Peter 5:7) It’s when life is unbearable that we are forced to cry out to God. Paul understood this. (2 Cor. 1:8-9)

**IV. JESUS WILL EITHER CALM YOUR STORM OR CALM  
YOU**

There were two storms present that night. There was the **meteorological storm** happening outside and there was the **emotional storm** raging on the inside of the hearts of the disciples.

Jesus said, “Why are you afraid?” (v-40) Then He spoke to the wind and the waves and said, “**Hush. Be still.**” Those were the kinds of words that a mother would speak to a crying child. “**Hush, settle down.**” And the Bible says it was completely calm—there was a great calm (v-39). The word for “great” is “**megas**” from which we get the word MEGA. There was a mega calm.

**V. IF JESUS IS IN YOUR BOAT, YOU KNOW YOU’LL MAKE  
IT THROUGH THE STORM**

In the midst of the storm, the disciples had forgotten what Jesus said. He said, “**Let us go over to the other side.**” (V-35)

Remember our verse and promise of the year from Isa. 43:1-5. **I don’t know about you, but I’d rather be in a storm with Jesus than outside the storm without Him.** The lesson of the storm is simple yet profound. Jesus never promises us a smooth ride, but He guarantees us a definite destination.

The greatest maritime disaster of history was the sinking of the **Titanic on April 15, 1912**. It wasn’t a storm that sank her. It was an iceberg, but it was also the excessive pride of the shipbuilders. One of the crewmembers commented to Mrs. Sylvia Caldwell when she boarded, “*God himself could not sink this ship.*”