

First Baptist Church

Staying Connected

I have the YouVersion Bible on my smart phone and I found this blog written on 3/17/20 entitled: “3 Encouraging Truths to Remember When Life Gets Hard.” I don’t know who the author is to give credit to, but this is a great reminder for this time that we are experiencing. But it’s right on point for today. Allow me to share it with you. It’s based on Matthew 8: 23-27. Please pull out your Bible and read the full passage.

Choose Faith over Fear

Matthew 8:27 “What sort of man is this, that even the winds and sea obey Him?”



Think about the disciples hanging out with Jesus on a boat when a life-threatening storm erupts on the water. They’re unprepared to face it and, panicking, realize they might die.

The entire time this is happening, *Jesus is sleeping peacefully.*

After begging Jesus to do *something*, He calms the storm... But not before asking them, “Why are you afraid?”

His gentle rebuke over their lack of faith wasn’t because they didn’t believe Jesus could save them *from* the storm, but because they struggled to believe He would see them *through* it.

When we find ourselves in storms we can’t control, how do we respond with faith? Here are three encouraging truths to remember:

1. God has power over every storm.

If the wind and the waves don’t concern Him, then they shouldn’t frighten you. You might not be able to change your situation, but you can choose to faithfully trust God in the middle of it.

2. Fixing your eyes on Jesus leads to peace.

Are you looking at the size of the storm, or turning towards the One who can calm it? It’s only by focusing on God, who knows every outcome, that you can navigate any situation with His wisdom and peace.

3. Jesus is always in your boat.

It’s easy to focus on your fears when you can’t control your future. But thankfully, Jesus knows your future, and He’s always by your side. And, He calls you to live by faith, not sight.

Whenever you find yourself overwhelmed by life, you always have two choices: you can focus on your circumstances, or fix your eyes on Jesus.

If you choose to look to Jesus above everything else, you will begin to see that the storms you face are not nearly as powerful as the Savior choosing to walk through the storm alongside you.

Stay calm and trust Jesus!
In His Service
Pastor Larry

As we persevere through this unprecedented time and are not meeting in community, Pastor Larry will send out a weekly devotional. The prayer list will be included to keep you informed of prayer needs of our church family and community. If you need assistance of any kind, please call Pastor Larry’s cell phone: 515-571-1444