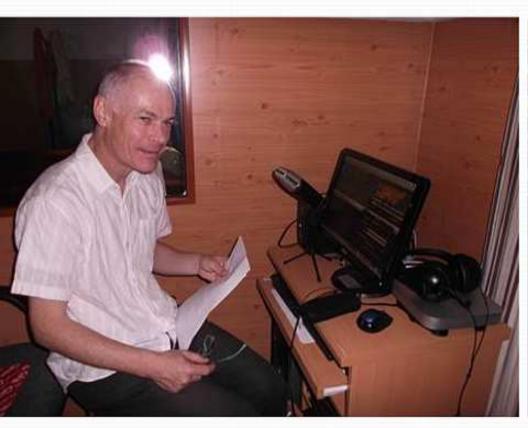


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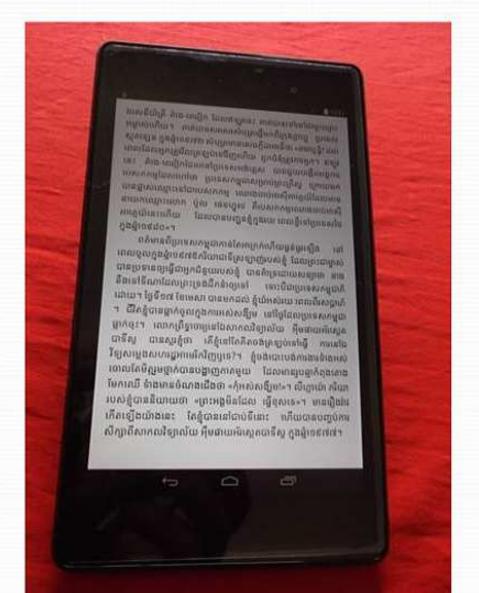
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Technology







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Apologetics and Christian Unity





Frightened Fishermen



Jesus! Wake Up! Mark 4:35-38

Jesus Calms the Storm

35 As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." 36 So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). 37 But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water. 38 Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?"

Veterans Matthew 4:18-22

One day as Jesus was walking along the shore beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers--Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew--fishing with a net, for they were commercial fishermen.

Jesus called out to them, "Come, be my disciples, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

And they left their nets at once and went with him.

A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their nets. And he called them to come, too.

They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

The Disciples

- Had already experienced storms.
- Knew that Jesus personally.
- Had experienced His power and miracles.
- Probably had been used to perform miracles by this time.

Why did they fear the storm?

Easy Answer

The disciples didn't fully understand that Jesus was also the Creator of all things, including the sea. No need to fear.

Hard Answer

God sometimes leads us into situations that stretch our faith to the breaking point. It is through these experiences that our faith grows.

Rising Costs of Discipleship mark 10:28-30

Then Peter began to mention all that he and the other disciples had left behind. "We've given up everything to follow you," he said. And Jesus replied, "I assure you that everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for my sake and for the Good News, will receive now in return, a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property--with persecutions. And in the world to come they will have eternal life.

Gethsemane Mark 14:32-42

- Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
- Mar 14:32 And they came to an olive grove called Gethsemane, and Jesus said, "Sit here while I go and pray."
- Mar 14:33 He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he began to be filled with horror and deep distress.
- Mar 14:34 He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and watch with me."
- Mar 14:35 He went on a little farther and fell face down on the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by.
- Mar 14:36 "Abba,^[7] Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will, not mine."

Peter! Wake UP!

- Mar 14:37 Then he returned and found the disciples asleep. "Simon!" he said to Peter. "Are you asleep? Couldn't you stay awake and watch with me even one hour?
- Mar 14:38 Keep alert and pray. Otherwise temptation will overpower you. For though the spirit is willing enough, the body is weak."
- Mar 14:39 Then Jesus left them again and prayed, repeating his pleadings.
- Mar 14:40 Again he returned to them and found them sleeping, for they just couldn't keep their eyes open. And they didn't know what to say.
- Mar 14:41 When he returned to them the third time, he said, "Still sleeping? Still resting?^[8] Enough! The time has come. I, the Son of Man, am betrayed into the hands of sinners.
- Mar 14:42 Up, let's be going. See, my betrayer is here!"

"The Path Gets Steeper From Here"



John 21:2-7

Several of the disciples were there--Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin^[2]), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples. Simon Peter said, "I'm going fishing." "We'll come, too," they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night. At dawn the disciples saw Jesus standing on the beach, but they couldn't see who he was. He called out, "Friends, have you caught any fish?" "No," they replied. Then he said, "Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll get plenty of fish!" So they did, and they couldn't draw in the net because there were so many fish in it. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic (for he had stripped for work), jumped into the water, and swam ashore.

The Narrow Path John 21:18-19

The truth is, when you were young, you were able to do as you liked and go wherever you wanted to. But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will direct you and take you where you don't want to go." Jesus said this to let him know what kind of death he would die to glorify God. Then Jesus told him, "Follow me."

Live For Christ Philippians 1:20-26

For I live in eager expectation and hope that I will never do anything that causes me shame, but that I will always be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past, and that my life will always honor Christ, whether I live or I die. For to me, living is for Christ, and dying is even better. Yet if I live, that means fruitful service for Christ. I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: Sometimes I want to live, and sometimes I long to go and be with Christ. That would be far better for me, but it is better for you that I live. I am convinced of this, so I will continue with you so that you will grow and experience the joy of your faith. Then when I return to you, you will have even more reason to boast about what Christ Jesus has done for me.