

Digging Deeper: Matthew 8:23-27, Luke 8:22-25

Written by Rob Reynolds (Elder at MACC)

Day 1

Read through and pray over Matthew 8:23-27

Matt 8:23: Jesus decides to go to the other side of the lake and he gets in a boat. The disciples followed Jesus. Let's begin this study right here. Where Jesus went, the disciples followed. Read Matthew 16:24. Jesus instructs us to follow him. The words "follow me" is repeated over 20 times in the New Testament. This is a crucial step that has great ramifications. Are you following Jesus wherever he leads? Are you reading the bible and praying to see where he is leading you?

Day 2

Matt 8:24: While the disciples were on the boat with Jesus a storm began to brew suddenly. Waves were sweeping over the boat. Oftentimes in our christian walk with Jesus we face sudden storms in our lives. The waves of life altering events begin to surge. These waves feel as though they may overtake us. This is when panic, fear, and anxiety begin to cloud our thoughts and actions. We either forget entirely that Jesus is on the boat with us or we think Jesus fell asleep on the job and is not looking out for us. Take time today to read and pray over the following three verses. Isaiah 41:10, Deuteronomy 31:8, & Joshua 1:9

Day 3

Matt 8:25: Here the disciples go on to wake Jesus who was sleeping on the boat. In all Gospel accounts of this storm the disciples state that they are about to drown. In Mark's account of the storm the disciples question if Jesus even cares (Mark 4:38). However, I like Matthew's account as the disciples called on Jesus saying "Lord, save us...". Be careful not to get swept away by the storms in your life. We must remember to call on Jesus. He is able to save us. Are you or someone you know currently in the midst of a storm? Are the waves of life knocking you over? Call on Jesus right now!

Day 4

Matt 8:26: Jesus responds to the disciples. He questions the magnitude of their fear and points out how miniscule their faith is. It is important not to be driven by fear. Fear can cause us to panic and make rash decisions. Fear often leads us to take over control of the wheel and turn the boat around. Suddenly we are not following the path God has put us on. Our faith in Jesus must be greater than the fears of this world. Read Psalm 46:1-3. Take time today to consider this verse and perhaps put it to memory.

Day 5

Matt 8:26: Jesus rebukes the fear of his disciples and he rebukes the storm also. He calms the storm and the wind ceases. God is able! He can rebuke the storms in your life. Where is your faith? Have you turned your storms over to God? Are you placing your troubles on the altar and leaving them behind? Take time today to think about the troubles that are weighing you down. Are you allowing circumstances to dictate your posture? Read Psalm 9:10. Decide today to stand in the confidence of Jesus our Lord and Savior.

Day 6

Matt 8:27: After Jesus calms the sea, the disciples were left standing in awe! They were amazed that Jesus had the power to command the winds and the waves. They were left pondering "what kind of a man is this". Do you know this man? Do you know Jesus? He is: The Son of God, The Good Shepherd, The Lord, The True Vine, The Lamb of God, Immanuel, The Bread of Life, The Author and Finisher of our Faith! Read John 14:6 and Proverbs 3:5-6. Pray over this study, remember who Jesus is, and put your trust in him.