

BREAKING FREE

FROM IDOLS THAT STEER OUR STEPS

“The Idol of Control”

MAIN POINT

Longing for or worshipping control leaves us...but Jesus in the boat.

MARK 4:35-31

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he told them, “Let’s cross over to the other side of the sea.” ³⁶ So they left the crowd and took him along since he was in the boat. And other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking over the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ He was in the stern, sleeping on the cushion. So they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher! Don’t you care that we’re going to die?”

³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Silence! Be still!” The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰ Then he said to them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

⁴¹ And they were terrified and asked one another, “Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!”

KEY POINTS:

- We all have things in our life that we try and hold control over.
- Our desire for control comes from a mix of uncertainty and a desire for mastery
- When we are controlling, we condemn others, and we experience worry or anxiety.
- We need to call upon Jesus to take control.
- Jesus is with us on the boat in the storms of life, and won’t let us sink.

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT:

What was your favorite part of this last week? What was your least favorite part?

Have you ever been in a situation where someone felt very controlling? What was it like?

Have you ever had to give up your control over a task, or job? How was that for you?

ENGAGE:

How do you think the disciples felt in the Mark passage when they realized Jesus was sleeping in the boat?

Jesus asks the disciples, "do you still have no faith?" What do you think he means by "faith"? and what might that have looked like for the disciples?

Look at v41, the disciples are trying to figure out who Jesus even is! Do you think if they knew Jesus, that they would have still been worried about the storm?

APPLY:

What is a situation in your life you feel like you need to give up control over?

How might giving Jesus control over that situation be a positive thing for you?

Is it hard to have "faith," and to trust that God will take care of you? Why or why not?

How might you be able to rely on each other as a group to give control over to God?