

Mark 1:1

This Is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God.

This is what Mark is writing about. He shows over and over again the authority of God upon Jesus. He is the visible image of the invisible God.

When we try to understand the writings of Mark, we begin with the question of "Who is Jesus?" He is the Messiah, the Son of God.

Misplaced fear will destroy your faith. It will weaken your faith to the point where you will be more concerned and worried about the storm, than you will be excited for the One who is in the storm with you. Misplaced fear will drive commitment to what your misplaced fear is in, instead of what your misplaced fear should be in.

Fear moves towards what you believe has the answer. Once fear has taken root, and you believe that thing you have fear in has the answer, commitment begins.

But Greg, they cried out to Jesus?

Their cry was one of fear placed in the waves. Their focus was on the waves and the result that will come from the waves. They had faith in the boat to get them there, but they realized the finiteness and frailty of the boat in the midst of the crashing seas. They had faith in the previous experiences and abilities as fishermen who knew the layout of the lake, stars, and the time frames of rough seas versus calm seas. Their own abilities, experiences and knowledge was put in the face of adversity and they saw the weakness in those. Then they cry out to the one ditch effort. This guy has done miracles, and cast out demons. His presence isn't enough, because we are going to die. Wake Him! He needs to stop the storm. It isn't safe in the storm.

The safest place to be is with Jesus in the storm. Faith placed in Jesus says, "to be where Jesus is, is the best place to be. If it is in the storm or if it is in the calm waters of life."

They asked Him, "Don't you care?" That is the question that everyone at some point wrestles with. Why are we going through this? Jesus, don't you care enough to make it stop?

D.A. Carson: *"Jesus' rebuke is therefore not against skepticism of His ability, nor against the fear that the disciples like others might drown. Rather they failed to see that the one so obviously raised up by God to accomplish His Messianic work could not possibly have died in a storm while that work remained undone. They lacked faith, not so much in His ability, as in Jesus as Messiah, whose life could not be lost in a storm, as if the elements were out of control and Jesus Himself the pawn of chance."*