

Who are the Men in the Boat?

MARK 4:35-41

MATTHEW 8:18-27 AND LUKE 8:22-25

MAIN IDEA: THE MEN IN THE BOAT WERE A PECULIAR LOT WHO WERE SELECTED BY THE UNIQUE MAN IN THE BOAT AND HE WAS GOING TO TEACH THEM A VERY IMPORTANT LESSON ABOUT THE CHOICE THEY MADE TO FOLLOW HIM.

Mark 4:35-41

“On that day, when evening came, He said to them, “Let us go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was; and other boats were with Him. And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. Jesus Himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Hush, be still.” And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm. And He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?” They became very much afraid and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?” (Pray)

Point 1

- ▶ Who are the men in the boat?
 - Jesus
 - Andrew, Peter, James and John
 - Matthew, called Levi
 - Simon
 - Judas
 - Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Thaddaeus or James, the son of Alphaeus
 - What kind of men were they?

Let's Start with the Disciples

- Andrew and **Peter**, the sons of Zebedee-James and **John**. They were fisherman. They meet Jesus by the sea of Galilee. He called out to them to follow Him and they left their nets and followed Him. James and John were called by Him a little later than Peter and Andrew and they left their nets and dad and followed Him.
- Matthew, called Levi, was called after the sons of Zebedee. He was a tax gatherer for the Roman government. He was not well liked by the people. While in Capernaum, Jesus saw Him and called him. Leaving a lucrative job He too followed Jesus.
- **Simon who was known as the Zealot. He may have been an activist looking for a Messiah to deliver him from Roman rule.**
- Judas, who served as the treasurer in Jesus' band of disciples, was a thief.
- **Philip**, Bartholomew, **Thomas**, Thaddaeus or James, the son of Alphaeus are mentioned in Scripture and we know very little about them. What we do know is like the others, except John and Judas, they were martyred for their faith.

What stands out about them?

They left what were they doing to follow Jesus when called.

They had varying reasons for following Him.

They knew something about Jesus but it varied.

They were looking for the Messiah for one reason or another.

All but one followed Him their whole life.

They were trained by Jesus to lead the church.

What stands out about them?

They were all sinners dealing with brokenness.

They grew in their understanding of who Jesus was.

All but one was willing to pay the cost of following Him.

They had varying degrees of relationship with Jesus.

All but one was made new and transformed into the image of Christ over time.

Who was the Man in the Boat?
Jesus

What stands out about Him?

Jesus

He is a fisherman

He is a carpenter

He is a son

He is a friend

He was born

He grew and developed

He hungered

He thirsted

He became weary and tired and needed sleep

He experienced the full range of ordinary non-sinful emotions

He was tempted

Jesus

He is Power

He is Intimacy

He is Hope

He is the Shepherd

He is the Potter

He is Savior

He is the Son of man

He is the Son of God

He is Lord

He is a member of the Trinity

Jesus

He was raised from the dead in His humanity

He continues His Kingly and Priestly work

He will return in His glorified human state

He is God and He is Man!

And it is amazing what He can do with a
storm!

The Big Question?

Would you have picked these men to start an Eternal Institution?

The Answer!

Well Jesus did! And He has a training plan, so let's get to it!

What is Jesus teaching them in three years? That He is fully God and fully Man

We know about being God, let's look at the humanity He is teaching them.

Hebrews 4:15-16; Hebrews 5:7-9; Hebrews 2:14-15,17-18

1. He can sympathize with our weaknesses
2. Yet without sin
3. Because of Him we can draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

He is fully God and fully Man

4. In the days of His flesh

5. He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death. He was a Man of Lament.

6. Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things He suffered. And having been made perfect...

7. He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation...

He is fully God and fully Man

8. He Himself likewise also partook of the same (nature) that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death that is, the devil...

9. To free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

10. Made like His brethren in all things

He is fully God and fully Man

11. So that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in all things pertaining to God to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

12. For since He Himself was tempted in that which He suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.”

So how does he draw them in to understand Who He is?

He uses manifestations of His glory.

Here is the start of it:

“On that day, when evening came, He said to them, “Let us go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was; and other boats were with Him.”

- Jesus had a long day of teaching that started early morning.. He taught, He dealt with a large crowd, He privately taught the disciples- it was a long, people intensive day. He was tired and He knew it wouldn't be better once they got to the other side.

He uses manifestations of His glory.

The next phase:

“And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. Jesus Himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion;”

Here is the Creator and Sustainer of creation. Creator of sleep is in a gale force storm out on a lake sound asleep in the storage compartment of the boat.

He uses manifestations of His glory.

Here is the disciples response:

“and they woke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”

Just how well do you think they knew him at this point?

Were they questioning their choice of Messiah?

What is their expectation of what He could do for them?

He uses manifestations of His glory.

What He does is absolutely stunning, in fact scary!

“And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Hush, be still.” And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm.”

Can you imagine what was going through their minds?

What were they feeling physically, emotionally?

Did they feel safe or were they frightened even more?

Did they want to get to shore and never get back in another boat?

He uses manifestations of His glory.

So Jesus says:

“Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

He read them like a book!

He just pointed out to them that their greatest need was spiritual and not physical.

He uses manifestations of His glory.

The priority of our spiritual needs are not met with physical resources. Only the sufficiency of Christ and the cross can.

“Nothing in this world is suitable to the soul’s nature. The soul is spiritual, but the things of this world are physical. But God is perfect in all these respects and He will satisfy the soul. God is spiritual good and is so suitable to the nature of the soul. He is a universal good, so He can meet the soul’s many needs. He is an eternal good, so He is equal to the soul’s duration.”

George Swinnock “The Blessed and Boundless God”

He uses manifestations of His glory.

And their response:

“They became very much afraid and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?”

He uses manifestations of His glory.

What is the lesson this manifestation of His glory taught them?

Jesus has 'em right where He wants 'em. Staring right in the face of His sufficiency and seeing their proud independent spirits of no value when their life was at stake.

Jesus, the God/man, was loving enough to not only rescue them from a terrifying death, He laid the ground work to rescue them from an eternal one and give them an abundant spiritual life.

He is fully God and fully Man

So in three years of Gospel education, these broken, needy, greedy, seedy, crooked, independent, self-centered, truth about God suppressors, etc. etc. etc. men are going to lead the church Jesus is continuing to build right here today.

Let's talk a little about this and how it applies to us.

Jesus is using the same method of teaching us today. The difference between then and now is we have had the Holy Spirit counseling us since being born again.

Let's talk about this!

Questions:

How are we responding to His continued manifestations to His glory?

Do we respond like the woman at the well and the Nobleman? reborn

How about like the paralytic? dull

Maybe like the Pharisees? foolishly proud

How does a person grow beyond initial conversion?

Is there a way to break stubborn sinful habits?

What about damaged relationships?

He is fully God and fully Man

Questions:

What about self-loathing?

Rejection?

Anxiety?

Addictions?

Maybe the question is: Is there more salvation after conversion?

Or perhaps an attitude of “apparently He doesn’t know who I am.” or

“Nobody understands what I’ve been through!”

Finally but not lastly, “Jesus staying in this sinking boat is my best bet because I don’t know if I can really trust you.”

He is fully God and fully Man

Folks there is help right here!

There is no better place to be than in a church Jesus is building that the gates of hell can't stand against.

That church is a place where growing in caring for one another, support, discipleship, counseling, assistance and belonging are all based in the sufficiency of Christ.

We share in the boat of brokenness, fix you eyes on Jesus!

He is fully God and fully Man

- Take time and do a thorough study of the book of Acts and see the glory of Jesus manifested in these precious lives that Jesus saved from their self-love and rebellion toward Him.

- In fact strive to know the Gospel in a way that will transform the same way it has countless brothers and sisters over two millennia. It starts right here. Jesus is still building His glorious church and we can be part of it!

(See the back of your program for further assistance.)