

What In The World Is Going On?
Mark 4:35-41

This week we took a look at four action steps we can take when life is out of control. We studied the passage where Jesus was with His disciples on a boat in a storm. The disciples falsely believed that Jesus was uncaring, unconcerned, and unable to help them. However, to their surprise when they awoke Him, He changed all their circumstances. God is still ruling and reigning even though we don't see Him. Because of His love for us and His power, we can rest assured in difficult times that God is still working everything out for His purposes. Here are the notes from this weekend...

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Follow the leading of Jesus Christ always. (35-36)

Trust that Jesus always cares for you and is in control. (37-38)

Believe that He can and will change your difficult circumstances. (39-40)

Know that Jesus Christ is your Lord. (41)

Hearing the Word of God and responding to Him is extremely important. If you haven't had the chance to listen to the message from this week, you can now watch it here (<https://bravechurch.co/sermons/?sapurl=LytkMjVmL2xiL21pLytnzczlreGI5P2JyYW5kaW5nPX RydWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==>). After watching, please use the following questions (if you find them helpful) in your BRAVE groups (now online every weekday at 6:30pm) or discuss them with your family and/or friends. If you are not in a BRAVE Group, now is a great time to get involved. Please go to our online Small Group platform (<https://bravechurch.co/groups-online/>) to get connected with a group that will work for you.

1. What makes it difficult for you to follow the leading of Jesus Christ? What are some of the areas of your life where you are tempted to live independently of Christ?
2. The crowds represent the world that is not following Jesus. The disciples left the crowds behind to follow Jesus. What are the "crowds" that you need to leave? The way you view and handle money? The way you view and handle sexuality? The way you view and handle fear? The way you view and handle work? The way you handle and view fun? Others?
3. The Apostle Paul told the Corinthian church to "Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ." In seasons like this, who are the people that you are imitating who are following after Christ? Are you a person people should be imitating? If not, what does Christ need to change so that you can be more of an influence for Him?

4. What circumstances happen in your life that causes you to think perhaps God is not caring or in control? How do you respond when you don't believe that God cares? How do you respond when you believe that God is not in control? What is the problem with those responses?
5. During a crisis, what happens when you take matters into your own hands? What emotions do you feel? How do you treat others when you are focused on your crisis? What might God want to change in your heart?
6. Why is waiting on the Lord difficult? Why doesn't God usually answer on our timeframe or in the way we desire? What can we learn as we continue to seek God in prayer?
7. Do you REALLY believe that God can and will change your difficult circumstances? Why or why not? How important is prayer to seeing change? How important is faith to seeing change? Why are prayer and faith difficult?
8. In 2 Chronicles 7:13-14, God tells His people that when they see things in the world that are a mess, He is the One who brought the crisis, and He is the One who can deliver them. He teaches them how to pray. Read these verses and talk about our responsibility and God's responsibility. What are some of the wicked ways in your life where you need to repent? Have your BRAVE Group pray together that by faith, we will be united for Easter this year for the glory of God.
9. The boat in the story was NEVER going to sink because Jesus was "IN" the boat. Is Jesus Christ in your life? Tell your BRAVE group about when Jesus Christ became your personal Lord and Savior. If you haven't repented and trusted Christ to be the Lord of your life, have someone in your BRAVE Group show you how.
10. How does knowing that Jesus Christ is in you, loving you, and having the world under control bring you comfort? Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 and discuss what you notice about the character of God. How do these verses describe God? How are God's comfort, compassion, and mercy helpful in this season?