

“Is Your Boat Sinking?”

Our Prayer Team has had quite a few very urgent, serious and in a few instances, life or death prayer requests lately! We count it an honor and a blessing to be counted on to “pray people through” a crisis in their lives, or the life of a loved one. We are told in Galatians 6:2: *“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”* When my wife was sick before she passed, we were on the receiving end of many prayers, and I can tell you for a fact - we could FEEL the prayers of the saints!

Mark 4:37-40 tells us about the infamous storm: *“A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, “**Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?**” (NIV) (“**Haven’t you learned to trust yet?**”) (TPT)*

I’ve heard a number of preachers over the years recount this story, and point out that if Jesus was IN the boat WITH them, why were they so afraid? I can’t speak for everyone, but in my personal life, when I see a “storm” coming my way, my natural reaction is to call on the Lord to help me avoid it, or if I’m already in the midst of a storm or some calamity or predicament, I am inclined to beg Him to get me out of it! But why? Isn’t He in my boat with me?

Roman 8:35 says: *“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?”* Pastor Wes has often said “About 95% of our prayers are to keep sick Christians from going to heaven, and only about 5% are prayers to keep sin sick folks out of hell!” So what happens if our “boat” sinks, and we die? JESUS IS STILL IN THE BOAT!”

Romans 8: 37-39 goes on to say *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

None of us want to go through unsettled waters, let alone a raging storm, and none of us want our boat to sink. I think we’ve probably all heard the old saying “sink or swim,” so I guess the moral of this focus is - if you’re in the midst of a storm, by all means, swim (or row) for shore (pray!) and know that Jesus is with you, and will hopefully get you safely to the shore, but if your boat happens to sink along the way, rejoice that He is still with you, and He will usher you into eternity in heaven! Amen!