



Sermon Outline
January 21, 2024
Pastor Bryan Myers

Trusting, In Spite Of...

Matthew 8:23-27

* **Series definition of encounter:** *An impromptu but God appointed life-changing interaction with Jesus in the gospels.*

* **Encounter Challenge:** Read the four accounts of Jesus' life in **Matthew, Mark, Luke & John** by the end of March.

Encounter #3 from Matthew 8

Matthew 8:23-27 - Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Encounter Observations:

1. Jesus' _____ over His creation was revealed.

Genesis 1:3 - And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

John 1:1, 3, 14a - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

* *The natural cosmos _____ the voice of the One who had spoken it into existence.*

2. It could be _____ that the disciples were surprised by Jesus' response to their awakening Him.

* *They could have easily been thinking, "We were about to die, and He's _____ us?"*

* *All too often, we believe our feelings and _____ God when we need to do the opposite, question our feelings, and believe God.*

* *Fear will always _____ when we're more aware of the waves around us than the One who is with us.*

3. Being with Jesus did not provide _____ from earthly hazards OR human cruelty.

Matthew 5:45b - He (God) causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Matthew 5:11 - Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

Encounter Applications:

1. A new _____ of faith will be required with each new storm in life we encounter.

* *A faith in God that exists _____ when things are going well is not really faith in God at all.*

2. Distinguish between feelings, _____, and faith.

Three things we must clearly identify:

1. What am I feeling?

2. What are the facts?

3. What does _____ say?

3. Never interpret God's _____ as lack of awareness.

Psalms 121:4 - Indeed, He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

* *Even in His apparent absence, God is _____ present.*