

26-08-2015 English Bible Study  
(This material is taken from Serendipity Bible and NET)

Mark 4.35-41 Jesus Calms the Sea

Open Question 1

What terrifying storm or movie can you still recall vividly?

35 Καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ὀψίας γενομένης· διέλθωμεν εἰς τὸ πέραν.  
On that day, when evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's go across to the other side of the lake." (NET)

1 (tn) "of the lake" is not in the Greek text but is clearly implied; it is supplied here for clarity.

36 καὶ ἀφέντες τὸν ὄχλον παραλαμβάνουσιν αὐτὸν  
So after leaving the crowd, they took him along, (NET)

ὡς ἦν ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ,  
just as he was, in the boat, (NET)

καὶ ἄλλα πλοῖα ἦν μετ' αὐτοῦ.  
and other boats were with him. (NET)

Discover Question 1

What emotions did the disciples feel as this storm raged on and on? What did they want from Jesus?

37 καὶ γίνεται λαίλαψ μεγάλη ἀνέμου καὶ τὰ κύματα ἐπέβαλλον εἰς τὸ πλοῖον,  
Now a great windstorm developed and the waves were breaking into the boat, (NET)

ὥστε ἤδη γεμίζεσθαι τὸ πλοῖον.  
so that the boat was nearly swamped. (NET)

1 (tn) "Now" is used to translate /kai/ to indicate the transition to a new topic.

2 (sn) The Sea of Galilee is located about 200 m below sea level and is surrounded by hills. Frequently a rush of wind and the right mix of temperatures can cause a sudden and violent storm on the lake. [Death Sea 423 m below sea level;]

38 καὶ αὐτὸς ἦν ἐν τῇ πρύμνῃ ἐπὶ τὸ προσκεφάλαιον καθεύδων.  
But he was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. (NET)

καὶ ἐγείρουσιν αὐτὸν καὶ λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· διδάσκαλε, οὐ μέλει σοι ὅτι ἀπολλύμεθα;  
They woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care that we are about to die?" (NET)

1 (tn) "but" is used here to indicate the contrast present in this context.

Discover question 2

How did you picture their faces in vv.39-41?

### Discover Question 3

Which would frighten you more? The storm or Jesus?

39 καὶ διεγερθεὶς ἐπετίμησεν τῷ ἀνέμῳ καὶ εἶπεν τῇ θαλάσῃ·

So he got up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, (NET)

σιῶπα, πεφίμωσο. καὶ ἐκόπασεν ὁ ἄνεμος καὶ ἐγένετο γαλήνη μεγάλη.

1 (tn) "so" to indicate the implied result of the previous action in the narrative.

2 (sn) Who has authority over the seas and winds is discussed in Ps 104.3; 135.7; 107.23-30. When Jesus rebuked the sea, he was making a statement about who he was.

47 "Be quiet! Calm down!" Then the wind stopped, and it was dead calm. (NET)

1 (tn) "Then" is to indicate the implied sequence of events within the narrative.

40 καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τί δειλοί ἐστε; οὐπω ἔχετε πίστιν;

And he said to them, "Why are you cowardly? Do you still not have faith?" (NET)

41 καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν φόβον μέγαν καὶ ἔλεγον πρὸς ἀλλήλους·

They were overwhelmed by fear and said to one another, (NET)

τίς ἄρα οὗτός ἐστιν ὅτι καὶ ὁ ἄνεμος καὶ ἡ θάλασσα ὑπακούει αὐτῷ;

"Who then is this? Even the wind and sea obey him!" (NET)

1 (sn) Jesus' authority over creation raised a question for the disciples about who he was exactly. This verse shows that the disciples followed Jesus even though they did not all about him yet.

### Discover Question 4

What was Jesus showing them about himself?

#### Reflection 1

How do you react to Jesus when he seems to be asleep in your life?