

**THE GOSPEL OF MARK - "CHAOS AND EXHAUSTION"  
MARK 4:35-41**

1. After a long and exhausting day, Jesus led those who followed him into a great storm (Mk 4:37). Through this account Jesus shows us that discipleship will be more dangerous than we often think (Mk 4: 38). Following Jesus will be dangerous and not just difficult. How does that statement hit you and why? Describe some ways that discipleship can be dangerous and not simply difficult.
2. The Holy Spirit affirms through Mark's gospel that the chaos, difficulty, and danger the disciples experienced was real. It was literally recorded as a "mega" storm in the original Greek. Why is it often difficult to affirm and admit when we are experiencing legitimate difficulties? Another way to ask the same question is, "Why are we often tempted to minimize the depth and legitimacy of our difficulties?" How can Psalm 88 help guide our response to legitimate hardships?
3. Through the difficulty and danger of the storm, Jesus revealed to the disciples what was happening deep within their hearts. The Bible teaches that our Father does at times lead his dearly loved children into difficult and dangerous situations so that they might become aware of the hidden sins still rooted in their hearts. The storm wasn't discipline for sin, but a means to reveal what is deep within. Read Deut 8:2. God didn't need to know what was in their hearts. They needed to know. How can knowing this reshape the way we think about the mega storms we experience?
4. Describe a time Jesus revealed a sin struggle in your heart through a storm?
5. Why do you think American Christians tend to overlook or minimize Jesus' physical exhaustion, which was one of the reasons he experienced such deep sleep? How does Jesus' genuine and deep physical exhaustion provide hope and encouragement?
6. Where do you see God's grace in this passage?