



March 13, 2016 **Chapter 4**

Calming the Storm The Sea of Galilee

Goals

- Develop an understanding of and appreciation for the Sea of Galilee and the part it played in the ministry of Jesus.
- Recognize the significance of fishing and fishermen in the world of Jesus.
- Contemplate your response to Jesus' call to discipleship and service.
- Feel Jesus' presence in your daily life and recognize the everyday as a mission field to which you are called.
- Acknowledge the storms you have faced and are facing in your daily life and become sensitive to the presence of Christ in those storms.
- Believe that with Christ, all things are possible.

Biblical Foundation (*Mark 4:35-41*)

On that day, when evening had come, [Jesus] said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Conversation Questions

- As you watched the video, what images or insights into the Sea of Galilee did you glean?
- How would you describe the shoreline? What characterizes the plants and vegetation around the lake?
- Did you notice anything about the action of the water on the lake?
- How is the water of a large lake, such as the Sea of Galilee, both something to praise God for and at the same time something to fear?
- What does water represent? What do you think about the prevailing images of water in the Scriptures?
- How do you think Simon, the fisherman, felt when this wandering rabbi got into his boat and told him to anchor offshore so he could talk to the crowd? Remember, Simon was trying to fish!
- Did you ever fish? How might you feel if someone on shore tells you how to catch fish?
- What storms do you see in today's world and in your own life? What does it mean when we say that Jesus has dominion over them? Do the storms always disappear? When they don't, what do you think it means? How do you think we should respond? How does God respond?
- What do you think it means for a person to be God? Besides this story, what other Bible passages demonstrate this mysterious truth?

PALESTINE AT THE TIME OF JESUS

Chapter 4

