

The Jesus Difference – Week 4 – 2-26-23 – Dr Lina Abujamra

1. Would you rather swim with sharks or give a speech to a 1000 people?
2. What were you afraid of as a child?

Mark 4:35-41 - As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." ³⁶ So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). ³⁷ But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water. ³⁸ Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?"

3. What was scary for the disciples in this situation?
4. What kinds of situations scare you in life?
5. Have you ever faced a situation where you thought you might die?
6. How did the disciples respond to their fear?
7. How do you respond to fear?
8. What did the disciples ask Jesus when they woke him up?
9. What questions do you ask when facing fear or anxiety?
10. Lina mentioned 3 questions that Christians commonly ask when facing trials: God are you there?, God do you care? God is this fair?. Which of these questions are you most likely to ask?

Mark 4:39-41 – ³⁹ When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰ Then he asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" ⁴¹ The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

11. Why do you think that Jesus followers struggle with fear & anxiety?
12. What did the disciples fear reveal about what was in their heart?
13. What do our fears reveal about what is in our hearts?
14. How did Jesus respond to the disciples' fear?
15. When Jesus calmed the wind and waves the disciples went from fearing for their lives, to being absolutely terrified. Why do you think they were terrified?
16. What was the difference between the fear of death and their fear about Jesus?
17. What do you think Jesus' purpose was for bringing the disciples through this situation?
18. How can we look for God's purpose in our own fears and anxieties?
19. Lina said that the glory was not that the disciples got what they wanted, but that they, for a moment saw Jesus for who he is. How might this apply to our lives?
20. How do you respond when Jesus doesn't fix the problems in your life?
21. How do you think that God would want us to respond to storms in life?
22. How might worshipping God help us when we face fears, anxieties and storms?
23. What perspective do you think that God wants you to have about your fears and worries?