

You of Little Faith, Why Are You So Afraid?

Matthew 8:18-34

Key Verse: 8:26

“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.”

1. Read verse 18-22. Why did Jesus want to distance himself from the crowd? Who volunteered to follow Jesus? What did Jesus teach about the cost of following him? What does this reveal about Jesus? What did one disciple ask permission to do? (21-22). What did Jesus’ answer teach about the cost of following Jesus?
2. Read verses 23-27. Who followed when Jesus got into the boat and left? What happened as they crossed the lake? (24) [how furious must the storm have been?] What was Jesus doing? What does this show about him?
3. Read verses 26-27 again. How did Jesus rebuke the disciples? What was their problem? What is necessary if one is to be a disciple of Jesus? How did Jesus calm the furious storm? What did the amazed disciples learn?
4. Read verses 28-32. When they reached the other side, the region of the Gadarenes, who met them? How are these demon-possessed men described? What did they know about Jesus? What did they beg him to do? (30-31) What did he say? What happened? (32)
5. Read verses 33-34. How did the pig tenders and the townspeople respond? What was their fear? What can we learn here about Jesus’ value system?