

## DISCUSSION IDEAS

# DON'T YOU CARE JESUS?

Mark 4:5-41

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

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Jesus performed miracles.

The prophets performed miracles.

Faith healers *claim* to perform miracles.

Satan has, and will in the future, perform miracles.

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: WHAT WAS THE ULTIMATE PURPOSE OF JESUS' MIRACLES?**

What was Jesus saying? Mark 1:15.

What was Jesus claiming; who was He claiming to be? Mark 2:1-12; 23-27. Compare Mark 8:29 and John 8:58. (Two titles.)

How did His listeners' opinions vary from each other?

What evidence was needed to validate His claims?

Did the Jewish Scriptures give a precedent? Consider Deut.18:15, Num. 14:11 and 22, Isa. 35:3-6. Compare Isa 61:1-3 with Luke 4:16-21.

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: A SPECIFIC MIRACULOUS EVENT.**

We will eventually look at four miracles clearly showing Jesus' authority and power.

These include calming a storm on the Sea of Galilee (4:35-41); delivering the demoniac from Legion (5:1-20); curing a chronic illness (5:25-34); and raising the dead (5:21-24, 35-43).

For today look at Mark 4:35-41.

After you look at the over-all account of the events that day, why do you suppose Jesus asked to cross the lake?

What about v. 37. Don't you imagine that Jesus knew this would happen? Might he have been engineering a "teachable moment"?

Discuss what happened in v. 38. What was the attitude shown by the disciples' comments to Jesus?

Remember, this group included professional fishermen. Was their fear justified? Consider how severe the conditions must have been.

Talk about Jesus' response in vv. 39-40.

He literally rebuked the wind and also called the disciples "cowards"!

Discuss the disciples' response to Jesus in v. 41.

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♦ **DISCUSSION POINT THREE: THE ROLE OF PROBLEMS IN OUR LEARNING.**

You can say you believe, but what proves it?

Do we acquire "faith" (trust) as a once-for-all event, or is it a progressive event?

When you are "feeling down", how does that affect your trust in Jesus?

Look at Romans 8:35–39.

Compare that to James 1:2-4.

Discuss the role of trials in life as we grow.

Compare 1 Cor. 9:24-27.

♦ **PRAYER:**

Let us be faithful in praying for the Ingvoldstads and the Tagbanwa People:

- Ingvoldstads and Binders have a responsibility before God as to the raising of their children. At what point would God want them to leave the island?
- How would the Tagbanwan Church continue to grow without foreign help?
- Pray for the transitions that will be required.
- Refer to the "Lets Talk Strategy!" notes from last Sunday in praying for this body of fellow believers and for the Ingvoldstads and the Binders.

♦ **BONUS INFORMATION.**

As we deal with those who try to say the Gospel accounts were fabricated, here is an evidence of reality, of these being based on eyewitness accounts. "...notice the details John Mark recorded like the other boats and the cushion. These details indicate John Mark was recording an eyewitness report, most likely that of the Apostle Peter."