

## TAKING SO MUCH FOR GRANTED

### **Mark 4:37-40 AMPC**

[37] And a furious storm of wind [of hurricane proportions] arose, and the waves kept beating into the boat, so that it was already becoming filled. [38] But He [Himself] was in the stern [of the boat], asleep on the [leather] cushion; and they awoke Him and said to Him, Master, do You not care that we are perishing? [39] And He arose and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, Hush now! Be still (muzzled)! And the wind ceased (sank to rest as if exhausted by its beating) and there was [immediately] a great calm (a perfect peacefulness). [40] He said to them, Why are you so timid and fearful? How is it that you have no faith (no firmly relying trust)?

Video of the scripture

<https://youtu.be/hj0cVBYKaEg>

The Apostles took the fellowship with Jesus for granted and allowed Him to fall asleep on the boat. Perhaps they became accustomed to his company that the Lord of glory was no longer a big deal to them. Perhaps they were too consumed with their fishing and dealing with the weather problems. Perhaps they didn't value the things He was saying and they became bored with His eternal teachings. But when a crisis hits us we become extremely interested in things we once over looked.

For example, now the Apostles are screaming at Jesus to wake up because they were facing a life threatening crisis. Now they want His fellowship and conversation. They even approached Jesus with some anger as to how could He be sleeping at a time like this. Could this be where some of us are right now with God?

Where we have taken Him for granted and now the pandemic is causing us to look closer at this Jesus and His Word for daily living. Could we be taking certain family relationships for granted during this pandemic and need to look closer at their true values? Could we have become so focused on so many other things that the pandemic lock downs are now causing us to re-examine those relationships we have taken for granted like the Apostles did Jesus on the boat.

### **ASK GOD:**

- 1) To help you apply the seven spirits of God to redeveloping and nurturing the relationships you have taken for granted.
- 2) Ask God to increase your capacity to love through focused worship on His infinite power to love so you can be more thoughtful towards others.
- 3) Make a real effort to build affection and transparent communication with those you have taken for granted.

- 4) Face issues with God's courage to confront in love asking For God's wisdom with those relationships you have taken for granted.
- 5) Approach these areas with much humility, patience, and gentleness.

DLR/ag