

Living Waters Chapel
1900 Jay St., Lebanon, PA 17046

~ *SERMON NOTES* ~

Pastor D. Dean Cover
May 18, 2008

SERMON SERIES: *“Lord, Whatever It Takes, Change My Attitude Before It’s Too Late!”*

SERMON TITLE: *Finding Faith in Tough Times*

SCRIPTURE: Mark 4:35-41

THEME: Only faith in God can see Christians through tough times.

INTRODUCTION: Many Christians have a weak and sloppy view of Biblical faith. The problem is you don’t learn the meaning of faith from a sermon. Faith is experienced in the marketplace and in everyday life. Faith is learned in hard times. You experience genuine faith when you’re faced with troubles in your marriage, at your job and in your relationship with other Christians in the church.

I. BIBLICAL FAITH FOCUSES ON GOD (v 35-36)

A. Think About This:

1. The Bible never says, “Believe?” It always says “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.”
2. The Bible never says, “Have faith.” It says, “Have faith in God.”

B. Christians do not place their faith in faith. For faith to work faith must be placed in God.

II. BIBLICAL FAITH HAS ITS PROBLEMS (v 37-38)

A. A Christian is not a person without problems. There is no promise that when you become a Christian you will be exempt from problems.

B. When the storms of life threaten, unlike the world, we have God to call on.

C. The hard truth is difficulties are a part of life and a part of living in a real world.

1. Job 5:7, "People are born for trouble."
2. James 1:2
3. Peter 4:12-13
4. Hebrews 13:5

III. BIBLICAL FAITH IS A PROCESS (v 39-40)

A. Think About This: *God is not interested in solving our problems; but He is concerned about developing our faith. (What is your response to this statement?)*

B. Matthew 14:13-21

C. There’s no spiritual growth without struggles.

1. Psalm 46:1-7
2. 1 Peter 1:7

IV. BIBLICAL FAITH UNDERSTANDS THAT THE STORMS OF LIFE WILL NOT LAST FOREVER (v 39)

A. If Jesus Christ is in your boat, no matter how rough the storm, it will never sink.

B. The storm that you are going through will not last forever.

CONCLUSION:

Has your faith been “Tried and Proved!” God is very interested in developing your faith. God the Father loves us so much He not only accepts us as we are, but God loves us so much He will not allow us to remain the way we are.