



Daily Devotionals – February 9, 2025

Called Crazy for Christ

Day 1: Jesus Calls Us to Cross Over

Scripture: *“That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, ‘Let us go over to the other side.’”* – Mark 4:35

Reflection:

Jesus invites us to journey with Him, but He never promises a storm-free trip. When He said, *“Let us go to the other side,”* He knew what was coming—yet He still led them into the boat. Following Jesus doesn’t mean we won’t face difficulties, but it does mean He is with us through them.

Story:

Sarah had prayed for a new job, and when she finally got an opportunity, she was excited. She felt sure this was God’s answer. But just a few weeks in, challenges piled up—demanding deadlines, difficult coworkers, and self-doubt. She felt overwhelmed, questioning whether she had misunderstood God’s plan. One evening, she sat down with her Bible, searching for encouragement, and came across Mark 4:35. The words *“Let us go over to the other side”* jumped off the page. Sarah realized something powerful—**Jesus had called her into this new season, and He was with her.** If He led her here, He would see her through.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for calling me to walk with You. Sometimes the journey is difficult, and I begin to doubt. When challenges arise, remind me that You are leading me. Give me the strength to trust You even when I don’t understand. Help me to step forward in faith, knowing that if You called me, You will provide for me. I place my trust in You today. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Day 2: The Storms of Life Are Inevitable

Scripture: *“A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped.”* – Mark 4:37

Reflection:

Storms don't mean you're out of God's will. The disciples were obeying Jesus, yet they still faced a life-threatening storm. Difficult seasons are a part of life, but they are never bigger than the God who controls them.

Story:

David and his wife followed God's calling to foster children, and while they were excited, they weren't prepared for how difficult it would be. Late-night cries, emotional breakdowns, and constant exhaustion left them feeling drained. They wondered, *“Did we hear God wrong? Why is this so hard?”* One night, David was reading the Bible and came across Mark 4:37. He saw something he had never noticed before—**even though Jesus was in the boat, the storm still came.** He realized storms aren't always a sign of failure; sometimes, they're part of the journey. That night, he and his wife prayed, asking for renewed strength. Though the challenges didn't disappear overnight, they moved forward with confidence, knowing Jesus was in the boat with them.

Prayer:

Father, I know storms will come, but I don't want to be shaken by them. Help me to trust that You are in control, even when life feels chaotic. When difficulties arise, remind me that I am not alone. Give me the endurance to keep going and the faith to believe that You are working all things for my good. Thank You for Your constant presence. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 3: Jesus is Never Unaware of Your Struggle

Scripture: *“Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion.”* – Mark 4:38

Reflection:

Have you ever felt like God was silent in your struggles? The disciples must have felt that way when Jesus was asleep during the storm. But His silence was not indifference—it was peace. He knew the storm would not destroy them, just as He knows your struggles won't destroy you.

Story:

Maria had battled anxiety for years. She often felt like God was distant while she wrestled with fear. She prayed, read her Bible, and attended church, but the anxiety didn't go away. One

evening, after a particularly difficult day, she opened her Bible and read Mark 4:38. She imagined how the disciples must have felt—**terrified, while Jesus slept**. But then she realized something profound: **Jesus was in the boat the whole time**. His silence didn't mean He didn't care—it meant He wasn't worried. That truth began to shift her perspective. Maria still faced anxious moments, but she started reminding herself, *"If Jesus isn't panicking, I don't need to either."*

Prayer:

Lord, sometimes I feel like You are silent when I need You most. But I know You are always present, even when I don't hear You. Teach me to rest in Your peace and to trust that Your silence does not mean Your absence. Fill my heart with faith and remind me that You are never unaware of what I'm facing. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day 4: Cry Out to Jesus

Scripture: *"The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?'"* – Mark 4:38

Reflection:

The disciples were afraid, and instead of staying silent, they cried out to Jesus. It's okay to bring your fears to Him. He welcomes our honesty, our doubts, and even our desperate prayers.

Story:

Carlos was overwhelmed by financial struggles. He had always been responsible, but unexpected medical bills and a pay cut at work left him struggling. At night, he would lie awake, anxious about how he would provide for his family. He felt as though God was distant, and one night, in frustration, he broke down, praying out loud, *"God, don't You see what's happening? Don't You care?"* A deep peace washed over him, and he realized something—**God had never left him**. Just like the disciples, he had allowed fear to overtake faith. Over the next few months, his situation didn't change immediately, but his heart did. He began praying daily, trusting that God would provide. And He did.

Prayer:

Jesus, I bring my worries to You today. Even when I don't understand, help me to trust that You hear me and that You care. Thank You for always being near, even when I am afraid. I surrender my fears to You, knowing that You are greater than anything I face. Strengthen my faith and remind me to call on You in every storm. In Your powerful name, Amen.

Day 5: Jesus Has Authority Over the Storm

Scripture: *“He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, ‘Quiet! Be still!’ Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.”* – Mark 4:39

Reflection:

Jesus spoke, and the storm obeyed. His power is greater than any struggle we face. If He can calm the sea, He can calm our hearts.

Story:

After losing his job, Michael was overwhelmed with fear. Every time he applied for a position, he was met with rejection. The pressure of providing for his family weighed on him, and his anxiety grew. One morning, he opened his Bible and read Mark 4:39. He decided to pray boldly, *“Lord, speak peace over my storm.”* Over the next weeks, things didn’t change immediately, but something shifted—**his heart was at peace**. He started to trust that God was in control. Eventually, an opportunity came in a way he never expected. Michael realized that sometimes, Jesus calms the storm around us—**other times, He calms the storm within us**.

Prayer:

Lord, You have power over all things. Speak peace into my heart and into my situation. I trust You to bring calm where there is chaos. Help me to walk in faith and not be shaken by the storms of life. Thank You for being my refuge and strength. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Day 6: Faith Over Fear

Scripture: *“He said to his disciples, ‘Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?’”* – Mark 4:40

Reflection:

Fear and faith cannot coexist. The disciples focused on the storm, but Jesus challenged them to focus on Him instead. The same is true for us—when we trust Jesus, fear loses its power.

Story:

Rachel had always been afraid of public speaking. When she was asked to share her testimony at church, she immediately wanted to say no. But something inside her nudged her to step out in faith. The fear was real—her hands shook just thinking about standing in front of a crowd. She spent the next few weeks in prayer, asking God for courage. On the day of her testimony, as she stood before the congregation, she felt a strange sense of calm. As she began to speak, the

fear melted away, replaced by faith. She realized that **when God calls us to something, He equips us with what we need.** Faith will always be stronger than fear when we place it in Jesus.

Prayer:

Jesus, help me choose faith over fear. When anxiety rises, remind me that You are bigger than my worries. Strengthen my trust in You, so that I can walk confidently in the calling You have placed on my life. Let Your peace fill my heart and drive out every fear. In Your mighty name, Amen.

Day 7: Who Is This? Recognizing Jesus' Power

Scripture: *"They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'"* – Mark 4:41

Reflection:

After witnessing the miracle, the disciples were in **awe** of Jesus. They had seen Him heal the sick, cast out demons, and teach with authority, but this moment was different. They realized He wasn't just a great prophet or teacher—**He had divine power over all creation.** Fear of the storm was replaced with a holy reverence for the One who had the power to command it. This passage challenges us to ask, *Who is Jesus to us?* Do we see Him as merely a helper in difficult times, or do we recognize Him as the Lord over all things, worthy of our complete trust and devotion?

Story:

James had always believed in Jesus, but his faith had been more intellectual than personal. He went to church, read his Bible occasionally, and prayed when he needed something. But everything changed one winter night when he was involved in a serious car accident. The moment before impact, he had a split-second thought: *This is it. God, help me.*

When James woke up in the hospital, the doctors told him it was a miracle he had survived with only minor injuries. That night, as he lay in his hospital bed, he thought about his life. He had always assumed he knew who Jesus was, but now, he felt a deeper sense of awe. He saw Jesus not just as a historical figure or someone to pray to when things were tough—but as the **sovereign Lord who had saved him for a purpose.**

As he recovered, James began reading Scripture differently. He saw the power of Jesus in every story. When he came across Mark 4:41, he related to the disciples. He had been "terrified" in his own way—not by a storm, but by the realization that Jesus was more powerful than he had ever acknowledged. From that moment forward, his faith was no longer routine—it was personal, alive, and full of reverence for the One who commands the wind and the waves.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I confess that sometimes I take You for granted. I call on You when I need help, but I don't always stop to recognize just how powerful You truly are. Like the disciples, I am sometimes amazed by what You do, but I fail to grasp the depth of who You are. Open my eyes, Lord, so that I may see You clearly.

Help me to live with a holy reverence, knowing that You are not just my helper in times of trouble, but the Lord of all creation. Teach me to trust You completely—not just when I need something, but in every moment of my life. Let my faith go beyond knowing about You to truly knowing You, loving You, and following You with all my heart.

Thank You for the storms You have calmed in my life, and thank You for the storms that have taught me to trust You more. May I never lose my awe of You, and may my life reflect Your glory. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.