

Reflection on Mark 4:35-41

The Gospel reading this Sunday is the story of the storm at sea. Jesus and his disciples are on the shore of the sea. He says to his disciples, "Let us go cross to the other side." Jesus and the disciples got into the boat and started to row to the other side of the sea.

While they were crossing the sea, a violent storm arose. The waves were high and their boat began to fill with water. Jesus, however, was oblivious to the storm. He was sound asleep in the boat. Finally, the disciples woke him. They said to him, "Teacher do you not care that we are perishing?"

Jesus then rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Immediately, the wind ceased and the waves of the sea became calm. Jesus turned to his disciples and asked: "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" The disciples were filled with awe and amazement. They looked at one another and asked, "Who then is this, that even the wind and sea obey him?"

Can you remember a time in your life when you experienced a ferocious storm? You may not have been on a body of water but you may have believed that you would perish. It may have been a death of a loved one, the loss of a job, financial difficulties, or a life-threatening medical condition.

How did you respond to this situation?

Did you trust God? Or did you react as the disciples did to the storm at sea: with fear and trembling?

Did you lose faith in God? During painful and difficult times, it is natural to question and doubt. Yet, we need God especially during the confusing and frightening times in our life.

Do we call out to Him as the disciples did or do we remain silent?

Jesus wants us to call out to Him and he will respond to our need, our pain and our fear. Most likely, the situation will not immediately be resolved, but God will strengthen us and walk with us each and every day. He will not leave our side. And one day, the sun will shine again!