



LET'S VISIT

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STORMS COME IN LIFE!

These past few weeks have seen torrential rainfall once again in the Texas Hill Country. It has reminded us of the horrific storms that came through last year causing so much damage and loss of life. The western United States has not experienced those types of storms but the wildfires have created great tragedy there also. We are also in the middle of the hurricane season and there are storms that are being watched in the gulf on a regular basis. All of this caused my mind to wander to a storm that occurred one night on the Sea of Galilee.

The Jewish Rabbis said the Sea of Galilee was God's chosen sea. I have never visited the land where the Sea of Galilee is located and with the turmoil that exists in our world today, I doubt that I shall ever go there. I must be content reading descriptions of those who have. However, we must remember that Galilee is a rather small body of water. It is oval shaped, only 13 miles long and 6 miles wide. On the eastern shore, mountains rise to about 2,000 feet. To the north is the snow capped summit of Mount Hermon.

It is said to be a chosen sea, not because of its beauty. It is a chosen sea because of its prominence in the life of Jesus. We cannot be certain of the location of most places mentioned in the Bible. We do not know where Calvary or Gethsemane actually were. Yet, we can be certain where the sea of Galilee is. It rolls just as it did in the days of Jesus. The fishermen still fish its waters. The same brown mountains still rise about it. The same stars look down upon it. The same storms convulse its waters.

Take away the incidents in the life of Jesus associated with Galilee and when you do a good part of the gospels is gone. It was at Capernaum Jesus made his home. It was there he worked many of his

greatest miracles. Jesus and the disciples preached on the shores of Galilee. It was there Jesus walked on the sea and it was on Galilee that Jesus calmed the stormy sea.

Regardless of what people might say or think, preaching can be strenuous. The physical, mental and spiritual labor is sometimes intense. Mark chapter 4 tells us that Jesus has been teaching and preaching all day. He taught the great Parable of the Sower. There also were other parables and sermons that day. He had been using a fisherman's boat for a pulpit. It is evening and Jesus is weary and worn.

So, Jesus says to the disciples, "Let us pass over to the other side." Mark says they took Him even as he was. That is they took him without any extra baggage. They took Him without even another cloak. It was a "come as you are party". Can you see Jesus as he steps over the side of the ship? See him lie down in the broad seat at the stern. He rests his weary head on a piece of sailcloth. Almost immediately, Jesus falls asleep.

One of the disciples gives the boat a shove down the gravelly beach. Then he leaped in when the boat was in deep water. The black horizontal sail is hoisted. The course is set for the dimly lit hills on the eastern shore. It is a perfect night, the stars are shining, the soft wind is filling out the sail and Jesus is sleeping peacefully. Someone has thrown a mantle

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In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 - Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



A Splendid Invitation

For The Pantry. . .

July 26 – Pork N’ Beans



**July 19, 2026
\$ 1,985.00**

The Lord’s plan of giving ...”as ye have prospered”

Storms Come In Life – Continued from page 1

over the Lord and all around them there are “other little ships”.

The sea of Galilee can be calm one moment and then stormy the next. So it was that night. Andrew and Peter are on the ship and they are not novices, they are experienced sailors. Andrew might say, “looks as if there will be a blow tonight”. Peter responds, “perhaps we should shorten the sail.” However, before they can make any adjustments, the winds are on them like a hurricane. The sail cracks like the report of a rifle, the winds roar and the sea and wind begin to rage. On every side the great waves come rushing in. They smash against the sides of the tiny ship. These disciples were seasoned navigators on Galilee and yet they were all frightened. The waves get higher and higher, the sky is black as the light of the stars is extinguished. Lightning flashes, thunder roars and the rain falls in sheets.

The disciples look and see Jesus as he lies sleeping in the stern of the boat. One moment he is far above their heads and the next he is far beneath them. The frightened disciples debate as to whether to waken Jesus. Finally, they wake him and cry, “Master, carest thou not that we perish?” Now, can

you see Jesus stand majestically in the ship? Do you hear him as he speaks to the elements? Jesus rebuked the wind and it folded its wings. He rebuked the sea and the waves fell flat and then there was a great calm. It was then he spoke to the disciples, “Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?”

Life has storms like that. Life and storms go hand in hand. The storms of life typically appear as gradually intensifying. Sometimes, sudden winds of adversity hit us hard. You see, the storms of life have a way of cutting us down to size. Yet, the same Jesus who stilled the tempest that night on Galilee can command the winds and the waves that agitate our lives.

The storms of life are many and varied. They break as suddenly as the storm that night on Galilee. Yet, whatever the storm, Jesus can calm the storms in our lives. To those living within the will of God he says, “Peace, be still.”

In the storms of life we must follow the example of the disciples. We must call on Jesus and Jesus will calm the storm.

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On The Lighter Side. . .



“I don’t care if it IS the latest translation, if it starts with ‘Once upon a time’ I’m not using it!”

To trust God in the light is nothing, but trust him in the dark – that is faith.



September 13, 2026

**Make Your Plans To Be Here!
Invite Others To come be our guest!
Let's Have a Great Day to the Glory of God**



August 26, 2026

For The Ladies. . .

*Please come and join us. . .
Bridal Shower and Brunch
In honor of
Liezka Klein*

*Saturday, August 22, 2026
Fellowship Hall
Center Church of Christ
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

*Selections at
Ace Hardware
Lasting Impressions
Amazon
Target*

Norma Cortez (Manny Ortiz mother) was scheduled for shoulder surgery this past Friday.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) **Leslie Adams** (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; **Peggy Baylor** (Tim Bradshaw's mother) **Debra Clifton** (friend of LaResa Livingston) **Coleen Dickerson** (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) **Hugh and Pat Fletcher** (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) **Joyce Fontenot** (Debra Pate's mother) **Pat & William Ford** (cousins to Martha Bradshaw) **Dot Grant** (Friend of Debra Pate) **Suzi Hogan** (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Albert Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's father) **Karen McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher) **Doug "Goob" Milford** (cousin of Amanda Molloy) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle); **Heather Simmons Stewart** (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; **Max Windham** (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026

December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"
December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party

Communion Preparation - July
Manny & Brittany Ortiz



Across The Preacher's Desk

In Matthew chapter 27, Pilate gave the people the choice of releasing a hardened criminal named Barabbas or Jesus. Whipped into a frenzy by their leaders, the people chose Barabbas. Then Pilate asked the question, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" The people shouted, "Let him be crucified"

That question is a universal question. It is a question asked by all races and all classes of people. The truth is, once a man or woman has heard about Jesus and learned the truth about Jesus, they can never be the same.

The magnitude of the question is seen when we consider Jesus is God's spokesman to man. Jesus is the only mediator between God and man. Jesus is mankind's only savior and our perfect example.

In times past, shepherds were attracted to Jesus and wise men came to worship him. Herod was afraid of him and tried to kill him. Some were jealous of him and tried to ensnare him in his speech. His own people refused to receive him and one of his twelve closest companions for 3 years, a man named Judas betrayed him. Peter denied him, Pilate tried to be neutral about him, and before his conversion Paul persecuted his followers.

However, the question is, what will YOU do with Jesus? Will you accept him? Will you obey him? Will you live his kind of life?

it's something to think about.....tlp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
Will you?**