

DIVINE DIRECTION FOR THESE TIMES

Big Idea: Divine Direction – Part Two

Pastor Curt Seaburg

Read Mark 4:35-41 NLT

This week Pastor Curt continued in our series Divine Direction for these times. He focused on finding our way through doubt when it creeps in. PC unpacked the story of when Jesus told his disciples to get in the boat and go to the other side. The disciples made a really good choice, they took Jesus with them on the boat and left the crowds on the shore.

Too many people have the **crowd** in the **boat** and **Jesus** on the **shore**.

Important question. In your search for direction, whose voice in your life is the **clearest**? Whose voice in your life is the **closest**? Whose voice in your life is the **loudest**? In this story while the disciples were on their way across the sea, a storm comes and they became scared. How often do we experience things that cause us fear and doubt? When a storm comes out of nowhere does it knock us off track?

It's **easy** for us to believe God does **miracles**. It's **hard** to believe God does **miracles for us**.

Every single one of us will face times of doubt. **When doubt grips our heart:**

1) We doubt His **concern** for us. – (read 1 Peter 5:7; Matt 6:26)

It's not because He doesn't care. It's because He isn't worried.

Where you **worry** the **most** reveals where you **trust** God the **least**.

2) We doubt His **commitment** to us. – (read Mark 4:38; James 3:8; Hebrews 13:5; Ps 141:3)

Leave – "Relax or Loosen. To give up, or to let sink."

Forsake – "Abandon, desert, to leave hopeless, to leave behind."

3) We doubt His **comments** to us. – (read Mark 4:35; Ps 145:3; Ps 91:4; Isaiah 42:2-3)

And when doubt grips our heart we can doubt His **concern** for us. Remember, it's not because He doesn't care, it's because He isn't worried. (read 1 Peter 5:7; Matthew 6:25-27) Then we doubt his **commitment** to us. (read James 3:8; Psalm 141:3; Mark 4:38; Hebrews 13:5) And ultimately we doubt His **comments** to us. (read Mark 4:35; Psalm 145:3; Psalm 91:4; Isaiah 43:2-3) It's paramount that we don't doubt in the storm what Jesus told us on the shore! So what do we do?!

How do I get out of this place of doubt?

1) **Run** to Jesus. – When storms come your way. You are either going to run **to** God or run **from** God. (read Philippians 4:6-7) **Forgetfulness** is the **enemy** of your faith.
What He told you on the shore He will honor in the storm.

2) **Trust** in Jesus. His ways are not my ways. His thoughts are not your thoughts. We need to trust Him. (read Mark 4:39; Psalm 34:17-18)

God is faithful and He **does** hear your prayer!
Don't doubt in the **storm** what Jesus told you on the **shore**.

Discussion Questions

- When you look for direction in life, who do you go to? Why?
- It's easy to believe God does miracles. Why is it hard to believe God does miracles for us?
- Where you worry the most reveals where you trust God the least. What are you carrying that you should let go of? What's in your boat that you need to throw overboard?
- Pastor Curt challenged us, "We can't let people who are looking for God, show up to church and only find us." How do we do this?

Prayer Focus

Father, thank You for being constant. Thank You for Your commitment to us. Even when I wander and stray, Your word says that You never leave us and never forsake us. I pray in my good times and my bad that I would run to You. I give you my worries, my doubts, and my fears. I put my trust in You today. In Your name, Amen.

Next Steps

Are you in a place of doubt today? If so, run to Jesus. Surrender your doubts and concerns to Him. He is able to do immeasurably more than we could ask, according to His power that is at work within us. Surrender your life, trust Him in that.

Leadership Tip

In a moment of transparency, share a story of when doubt showed up in your life. How did you find your way out? Invite others to share similar stories. We all have one!