

Faith Vs. Fear
ABT – October 4, 2009
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Text: Matthew 8:18-27

Storms are a fact of life. They happen to good people and bad. Those with a real faith are not paralyzed by fear during the storm. Those with a fractured faith fall under the power of fear during the storms of life.

1. Real faith is supposed to grow to maturity

- * Faith demands we move forward

*“So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become **mature** in our understanding. Surely we don’t need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds and placing our faith in God.” Hebrews 6:1 NLT*

- * Faith is nurtured and grows through God’s Word

*“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
Romans 10:17*

- * Faith that grows will result in greater love

“We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,” 2 Thessalonians 1:3

2. Evidence of real faith is not found in the absence of storms

- * You can be right where you are supposed to be and still be in a storm

“And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side.” Matthew 8:18

“Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him.” Matthew 8:23

3. The presence of fear is evidence of a fractured immature faith

“And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He (Jesus) was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!”

But He said to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

Matthew 8:24-26