

Jesus 101

“Grace Thoughts”



IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU ARE FREE INDEED!
JOHN 8:36

A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

“Seeing them straining at the oars . . . He came to them, walking on the sea.” –Mark 6:48

As a young girl, Psalm 46 was one of my favorite Scriptures. I was always impressed by the fact that God is both our refuge and strength, a very present help, even in the midst of a disaster. This Psalm provided a great comfort to my young soul. Now, as an adult, I continue to rely on God’s powerful, comforting Presence, and in His ability to be close to me at all times, especially in the midst of the dark and painful storms of life. Surely, He is our very present help in trouble.

It was the evening after a busy day of ministry. Mark tells us that the disciples were in a boat in the middle of the lake, while Jesus had stayed behind on the land (Mark 6:47). Though physically distant, there was no spiritual separation between them; Jesus was always aware of their whereabouts. This is when the storm hits, and the disciples, apparently left on their own, seem to be losing their battle against the forces of nature. “Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea” (verse 48). This is such a comforting verse! Jesus saw them struggling; at no point was Jesus unaware *of the location* and situation of His beloved followers even though He was not physically with them. He came to aid them in their time of *need as a response to His* awareness of their struggle. He chose to come to them in the fourth watch of the night (between 3:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M.), yet at all times He was conscious of their where-abouts. It is in our most difficult hour that we may experience most vividly God’s closeness to us. There is no darkness so dense that the Son of God cannot penetrate with His light. Jesus came walking to them on the water, which was a unique demonstration of His sovereign power and *divinity*. Even though His disciples had seen the multiplication of bread, they had not fully understood the depth of the divine identity of Jesus nor *His salvific* plan. May you be encouraged by the realization that the most powerful Being in the universe is also the closest to you in time of need.