

## Calming the Stormy Seas

There was once someone – a Teacher - who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people followed him. They followed him so they can listen to what he had to say about loving one another.

The Teacher and his disciples were crossing the Sea on a boat, and it was almost night.

After they arrived on the shore, a large crowd came to listen to him. Before they knew it, the crowd had gotten a lot bigger.

Soon people on the seaside were pushing each other, and the Teacher had to move to the edge of the water. Finally, he had to teach from the boat, while people listened on land.

When it got dark, he and his disciples sailed on the sea to get to the other side to take a rest.

At first the wind was soft. The teacher lied down and then he fell asleep.

Suddenly the skies grew very dark, and the wind blew hard and the waves grew bigger and bigger, crashed and sloshed on to the side of boat. And the boat rocked back and forth, from side to side.

When the disciples saw this, they panicked, and got scared that their boat would sink.

They yelled at their teacher: “Teacher wake up. The boat will sink, and we will drown.”

Their teacher woke up. He was not afraid. He knew how his disciples were so afraid, and so he said to the storm: “Peace Be Still.”

The wind stopped blowing, and the waves stopped crashing against their boat. The sea became still and quiet. He stopped the storm.

The disciples were bewildered, and said: “Even the wind and waves obey him.”

**WONDERINGS:**

I wonder what you found most important about the story? I wonder what caught your attention?

I wonder where you were within the story? I wonder which characters you identified with?

I wonder if you had moments of your life that felt very stormy? I wonder if you had moments in your life wherein you felt overwhelmed life's big waves and felt like you might drown and not survive?

I wonder how you were able to stay afloat?

I wonder how the storms in your life quieted down.

I wonder if there are parts of the story that you wanted to know more about?

I wonder if there are parts of the story that if you took it out, it would still be complete?