



Elder  
Jim Bowen, Pastor

I would like to begin this devotional with an experience I had several years ago. Several of my preaching brethren, our wives and a few others were gathered for a couple of days of preaching and fellowship. As we were getting started we had heard words of welcome, we had prayed that God would bless the meeting and now we were going to sing an opening hymn. The song that was chosen was "Brethren we have met to worship". Now we realized that the local church wasn't going to supply us with a piano player. But our thought was, well we have sung that song so many times before... HOW HARD COULD IT BE? Folks it was pitiful. I believe any and every note that could be uttered was uttered and most of those notes were uttered at the same time. It was a mess and I could look in the eyes of those around me and sense that we were in trouble. After about the third attempt to get that song going, in the midst of a calamity, a dear sweet sister calmly stands and quietly made her way to the piano. She struck a key or two and everything calmly came together in a wonderful way. God is good.

Now I ask you to please read Mark 4:36-39. In this record we have a time when the disciples of Jesus Christ, those closest to Him, were made witness to two great calms. The first calm is the calm in the heart of Jesus and the second calm was that calm which Jesus created with a word in the midst of a troubled sea.

The LORD was surely displaying a great calm. What a wonderful inner calm it was! "He was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow." Even as the ship was full, in the midst of the storm, Jesus was at peace. Those disciples were at their wits end, but the LORD of peace was in their midst. What a sight!

The disciples took note of the calmness of Jesus. But now consider the great calm which Jesus created in that which was around Him. Our text says "There was a great calm." Where did that calm come from? That calm came from the spoken words of Jesus. There is a great truth found here. If God purposes it to be so, He has but to speak and storms will subside into calm, so that the waves of the sea are still. When our spirits are troubled we only need our Lord Jesus to speak into our hearts and immediately the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, will possess us and calm us. No matter how discouraged you are as you face real troubles, the Lord can at once create a great calm in our lives. What a door of hope this opens to us in our times of trouble!

So I ask you to look back into your own life, think of those times when you had those moments of darkness and doubts. Have you ever been in such despair that you wondered does the Lord really care? My friends, God is still mindful of us, and from time to time He does manifest the fact that He does care. Aren't those moments sweet? In His calmness, He is able to ride out the storm with us and He is able to say, "Peace be still". And the raging waves will cease to roll and the wind ceases to blow, and there is calmness that only Jesus can give, that calm Spirit within, that's a blessing of His grace.

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2018 - Attendance: 48**

### Prayers & Concerns:

**JAMES 5:16 PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER**  
Tyler Lenger, Dale Lewis, Cathy Ash,  
Laura Shrum, Peggy Bowen, Mike Varvel,  
Jeremy Sapp/Shanda Schroeder  
Linda Cunningham, Randall Baker,  
Carol Rumble, Fern McDonald  
John Randal Bullard,  
Thomas Bloodgood, Zereta Alsobrook,  
Cathy Wilkinson, Russell Hargis,  
Betty Craig

*Those In The Nursing Homes  
& Health Care Facilities, & Our Military.*



**DON'T FORGET  
SINGSPARATION**  
*Same day!*

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FALL MINISTERAL  
MEETING**

**OCTOBER  
2 - 4**

Please sign  
up by  
October 12th

Secure Your Seat For  
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**BOOTH BROTHERS**

Main Street Music Hall

Lake Ozark, MO

Saturday, APRIL 6, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

