

God with Us
Day 28 PEACE TO CALM OUR STORMS

And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. (Mark 4:37-39)

It must've been one bad storm on the Sea of Galilee that day to make the disciples so afraid. After all, many of them were fishermen, and this was their regular sea. Yet as their boat took on water, they were terrified. As the waves rose and the wind howled, Jesus slept through it all. Finally, the disciples shook Him awake, shouting, in essence, "Don't You care what is happening to us?" With just a command for peace from Jesus, the storm calmed and the sea turned tranquil. The disciples were in awe, for very good reason.

Those disciples sure sound like us, don't they? When things are not looking good for us, we are often quick to cry out, "God, don't You care?" We think He is not paying attention or does not realize the magnitude of our situation, and we add to the spiral of our own storm. In reality, God is there. He is God with Us, always present, and He knows all that swirls around and within us. But He sees beyond the waves and winds of our circumstances. The power of His peace is not diminished by our storms. We can allow it to fill our hearts with calm and courage as we turn to Him, giving our requests to Him in prayer and focusing on His faithfulness. God with Us will never leave us. He will never fail.

When do you feel alone? What storms have you seen God calm in your life? How will you remind yourself of His faithful care and peace as you walk through Advent?