

同舟「主」濟 The Lord Is in Our Boat
馬可福音 Mark 4:35-41

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引言 INTRODUCTION

When we get into a new experience, we feel more secure if we can learn from someone who has been there and done that. We all have some degree of fear when facing the coronavirus outbreak. It is a new disease in the human history. Scientists, government officials and general public all want to know more about this germ. Most of us spend a lot of time following the latest news. We may also wonder how it feels to be infected. Last Sunday, the first person in Tennessee who was infected by COVID-19 shared his experience in the social media. Chris Baumgartner described that his family is on the front row seat to experience the mass hysteria that now affects the whole nation. Fortunately, his symptoms are mild and he is recovering. But the illness impacts him and his family emotionally. Not only do they have to deal with the fear, they also have to endure the panic from the public. Baumgartner gains a unique perspective about the disease. Being a victim, he can fully sympathize with other patients. He said: “If this is you, please know, you are not alone. We are here for you!” Baumgartner and his family struggle in this storm. Some 2,000 years ago Jesus’ disciples navigated through a storm on a lake. What did they learn in their experience? What can we learn from their experience? We are all facing this unknown storm of viral attack. Perhaps you may encounter a different storm. The company you work for is hit hard by the economic impact from the virus. You or a family member may be fighting with a chronic illness or a relational conflict. No matter what kind of “storm” is coming at you, fear not! From the story, Jesus showed us that He is trustworthy in our most urgent needs. Our story in the gospel of Mark is also recorded in chapter 8 of both Matthew and Luke. The three gospel writers contribute further details about the incident. On that day, Jesus had finished teaching from the shore of the Lake (or called Sea) of Galilee. He was swarmed by a crowd. He hopped onto a boat, possibly owned by one of His disciples. Jesus used the boat as a platform to teach a few parables. That evening, Jesus asked the disciples to sail to the opposite shore of the lake. That was where our story began.

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 危急的現狀 Insurmountable Reality

First of all, the disciples were in an insurmountable reality. Soon after the disciples set off, they met a storm. Let us use some logical imaginations to fill in the details. The boat was in the middle of the lake, and so there was no use to turn back. The vessel was possibly an ordinary fishing boat. It was large enough to hold the twelve disciples and Jesus. Therefore, it was not a huge ocean-liner made of solid steel that can withstand a storm. Since it was night time, the limited visibility intensifies the fear. It is like when you walk across a forest at night without a flash light. You wonder what you will be stepping on, and whether some wild animals will pop up from nowhere. Uncertainties will add to your fear. The disciples were trying to stabilize the boat. The passage tells us that water was coming in. They were in a dangerous situation. Peter, being a natural spokesperson of the crew, might be yelling out orders. “James and John, take

down the sail!” “Andrew and Philip, keep rowing!” “The rest of you, scoop water out with whatever you can find!” We may wonder where the storm came from. The geography of the area helps us understand the situation. The Lake is seven hundred feet below sea level. It is surrounded by hills. Cool air rushing down the ravines colliding with the warm air above the lake can generate a storm without notice. Now the disciples were fighting for their lives. If you remember the gospels, four of the twelve men were professional fishermen. They grew up in the area and they caught fish in the same lake as their job. We can safely assume that they had been in a similar storm before. Their knowledge and experience were of no use that night. It is like a skillful attorney who has a disobedient child that breaks the law, or a seasoned accountant filing for bankruptcy. Those experts are stuck in a problem they are trained to solve. There is a sense of helplessness in the midst of fear. We naturally think of the worst-case scenario when we are unsure of the outcome. There was a tornado warning a few weeks ago in the area I live. It might affect where you reside too. I was awakened by an alert on my phone early in the morning. Therefore, I turned the TV on to watch the local weather report. Soon after that, a siren began to blare in the neighborhood. I woke my family members up and gathered them in the living room. I also grabbed some key belongings. In case our home was blown away, I still keep some important documents and my computer. I can honestly tell you that I had fear. What if a tornado touched down and leveled my house? Thankfully, the storm passed through and there was not even much rain. A potential crisis is a good way to test our readiness to withstand a storm. We should figure out a plan in normal days. For example, there is nothing wrong for Christians to buy life insurance. Doing so does not mean that you have a weaker faith in God. Rather, it shows that you are responsible to your loved ones. Fear is a natural instinct God gives us. It heightens our alert to potential dangers. The question is how to deal with fear in a constructive way. We need to assess the reality like the disciples did. We understand the urgency and severity of the issue. We can consult experts when a problem arises. God gives those people wisdom to do research, and to develop tried-and-true solutions. Beyond all the preparations, we commit our fear to the Lord. We admit our weakness. We pray for God’s protection. We pray for the unknown situation. We also pray that God will increase our faith. We cry out to the Lord for help. That was what the disciples did next.

2. 錯誤的結論 Incorrect Reasoning

The twelve men faced an insurmountable reality. The storm was too fierce for them to handle. Just when they were trying everything to keep the boat from capsizing, they noticed that one person was doing nothing. That person was their Master, Jesus. He was sleeping at the back of the boat! The disciples then arrived at an incorrect reasoning: their Teacher did not care even if everyone perished. The disciples might have mixed emotions. They were shocked that someone could still be sound-asleep when the boat was rocking like a roller coaster. They could be mad at Jesus. How could someone be that selfish when other teammates were working so hard? Besides shocked and mad, the disciples were also puzzled. They complained to Jesus: “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” Their feeling was genuine, even though their reasoning was incorrect. Where is Jesus when people need Him? Have we not encountered situations when we are neck-deep in our troubles but God seems to be silent? Many psalmists had the same lament. For example, king David says in **Psalm 13:1-2** – How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? 2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? David felt

deserted by God. He longed to hear from Him. Those who did not believe in God ridiculed him: “You say your God is real. Where is He now? How come He does not save you?” What do the experience of David and the disciples teach us? It is normal to be afraid in a storm, even to the degree of questioning God. He knows everything inside our hearts. It is okay to be vulnerable and pour out our hearts before Him. To our fellow brothers: even if you never cry before anyone, it is perfectly fine to shed a few tears before God. After our emotions subside, we have to make a choice. Do we believe in our fear, or do we believe in the Almighty God who is much bigger than our fear? We should not conclude with an incorrect reasoning that God does not care. He is our Provider and our Protector. He loves us to the degree of sending Jesus to die for our sins. In the first chapter of James’ letter, the author encourages his readers to stand firm when they face all kinds of trial. He also urges them to pray for one thing. **James 1:5-7** read: 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. 6 But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord. God delights for us to seek His wisdom. He will never scold us: “How come it’s you again? How come you are so dumb?” God promises to share His insight with us. Therefore, we should be confident when we ask Him and not be shaken by the storm. Why do we need wisdom in a storm? We may only want a quick solution to get out of hardship. However, a more precious thing we need is to know God. A storm may be a good time for us to fine-tune our relationship with God. Do I trust my bank account and my experience more than I trust Him? Is God teaching me not to focus only on the treasures of this world? Do I need to be humbler and more patient? The storm may even be a means of God’s discipline. Perhaps there are some sins I need to confess to get right with God. Your situation can be very different from others, and the storm you are currently facing is perhaps unlike other storms in the past. Regardless, we should come before the Lord, ask for wisdom to discern His will. God may have a new lesson for you, just like what Jesus taught His disciples in the storm.

3. 嶄新的認識 Innovative Realization

The disciples tried to overcome an insurmountable reality. They came to an incorrect reasoning that Jesus showed no concern of their danger. Little did they know that the experience brought them to an innovative realization about Jesus. First, the disciples realized that there was power in Jesus’ words. After every effort had failed, the disciples woke Jesus up. Jesus then rebuked the storm: “Peace! Be still!” After Jesus gave a verbal command, the wind died down instantly. It was truly a miracle. Jesus’ words carry authority because He is God. When God says it, then it will be done accordingly. Jesus cast out demons with His words: “Be gone!” Then the evil spirits left the people they possessed. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He called out his name: “Lazarus, come out from the grave!” Here the passage says Jesus rebuked the storm. The word “rebuked” simply means to reproach someone, say, for making a mistake. For example, before Jesus went to the cross, He told the disciples that He was going to suffer and die but He would rise on the third day. Peter held onto Jesus and rebuked Him for making those claims. But Jesus turned around and rebuked Peter, saying: “Get behind me, Satan!” At that moment, the devil used Peter’s compassion as a hindrance to the cross. Now Jesus rebuked the storm as if the weather was a misbehaving child. Jesus ordered the chaos to return to a normal order. Through witnessing the miracle, the disciples realized a second thing about Jesus: The Lord had authority over nature. The disciples were previously afraid of getting drowned. The passage says now they

were afraid of the One who calmed the water. They asked each other: “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!” The gospel writer Mark does not even need to provide us an answer. Jesus is the Almighty God. Jesus has authority over the spiritual world. He has authority over diseases and human lives. Jesus is the CEO of the whole universe. There should be no fear if the disciples put their trust in Jesus. After Jesus calmed the storm, He then rebuked the twelve men, saying: “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” By now, the disciples should have accumulated enough faith about their Teacher. They saw Jesus performed many miracles. But they did not trust that Jesus would protect them in the storm. According to Luke’s record of the same story, Jesus asked the disciples: “Where is your faith?” It was like the disciples forgot to exercise the faith they already had. That reminds me of a credit card commercial. The slogan is: “What’s in your wallet?” If you have the card with you, then you should use it when needed. Jesus challenged His disciples: “I have given you the faith you need. Don’t hide it somewhere. Use it!” Jesus is asking us the same question today: “Where is your faith?” If our faith is based upon temporary things like money and health, then it will be washed away when a storm slams on us. As Christians, our faith should be built on God’s eternal Word. God’s promises will stay forever. He promises to never leave us nor forsake us. He promises to be our Good Shepherd, our shield and our fortress. He promises to cause all things to work together for the good of those who love Him. The Bible never tells us that everything will be smooth sailing when we follow Jesus. Anyone who makes such a claim must be reading a different Bible. God may not rescue us from the storm, but He gives us enough grace to lead us through the storm. The disciples got a good scare, they were completely soaked, perhaps their boat had some damages too. We may suffer in the storm. It can be our finance, our properties or our health. But do not forget that Jesus is still in full control. He has some important lessons for us to learn in the storm. Someone shared a good insight on WeChat recently. The virus we are dealing with has a code-name COVID-19. It stands for **C**oronavirus **d**isease of 20**19**. But to Christians we should remember that **C**hrist is **o**ver all **v**iruses and **i**nfectious **d**iseases. God is much bigger than this microscopic virus we cannot see. He is more powerful than any storm that we will encounter.

結論 CONCLUSION

Jesus showed us that He is trustworthy in our most urgent needs. He was in the boat with the disciples on that stormy night. Jesus is also in our boat no matter what storm comes our way. Whether float or sink, Jesus will be with us. He is the Lord of the universe and He is the Lord of our lives. Chris Baumgartner, the first person in Tennessee who caught the virus, knows that well. He does not feel alone in his storm. The family received hundreds and hundreds of encouraging calls, messages and texts from strangers. People assured them that they are with the family. Baumgartner said every person ended with the same five powerful words: “We are praying for you!” Although being confined to his house, Mr. Baumgartner said he found “the church” in a community. He encouraged everyone to be the church to his/her neighbors. You are not in our church building when you are watching this sermon. It does not mean that our church ceases to exist. We are going through this storm together in the same boat. Please do not forget to pray for your brothers and sisters. You can show your concern with a text, an email or a call. Do not just share information about the virus. Share some Bible verses to encourage each other. Be compassionate to those who may react with a greater fear than you. Care especially for those who may be single, wives whose husbands work in another city, elderly church members whose children live far away and those who have chronic illnesses. Let us experience God’s grace together as one people.

引言 INTRODUCTION

當我們進入一種新的體驗時，如果我們能夠請教一些老手，就會覺得更加有安全感。面對新冠狀病毒爆發時，我們都有一定程度的恐懼。它是人類歷史上的一種新疾病。科學家、政府官員和大眾都希望對這個病菌有更多了解。最近大家都花很多時間來追蹤最新的消息。我們也可能想知道中招的滋味是如何。上週日，田納西州第一位被病毒感染的人在社交媒體上分享了他的經驗。**Chris Baumgartner** 說，他的家人坐在前排座位上，正在經歷現在影響著整個國家的群眾歇斯底里症。還好的是，他的症狀很輕微，他也正在康復中。但是他和他的家人在情緒上也受影響。他們不僅自己要面對恐懼，還必須承受公眾的恐慌。**Chris** 對這個疾病有了獨特的體會。作為受害者，他可以完全同情其他患者。他說：「如果你也染病了，請記住，你並不孤單。我們一家人跟你一樣在水深火熱中！」**Chris** 和他的家人在這場風暴中掙扎。大約在 2000 年前，耶穌的門徒在湖上也經歷了一場風暴。他們從這次經驗中學到了什麼？我們可以從他們的經驗中學到什麼？我們都面對著這場未知的病毒風暴。也許你可能會遇到別的風暴。你工作的公司受到病毒帶來的經濟打擊。你或家人可能患有慢性疾病或碰到人際關係的衝突。無論你遇到什麼樣的「風暴」，不要害怕！從這個故事中，耶穌向我們表明了祂在我們最迫切的關頭仍然值得信賴。

今天的經文是在馬可福音。同樣的故事也記載在馬太福音和路加福音第 8 章。三位福音書的作者提供了事件的不同細節。那天，耶穌在加利利湖（或稱加利利海）的岸邊結束了教導。祂被群眾擁擠。於是祂上了一條船，可能是祂的一個門徒所擁有的。耶穌以那艘船為平台來教導一些比喻。那天晚上，耶穌要求門徒把船開到湖的對岸。那是我們故事的開始。

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 危急的現狀 Insurmountable Reality

首先，門徒處於危急的現狀中。門徒出發後不久，遇到了一場風暴。讓我們運用一些合理的想像力來補充細節。船在湖中央，所以沒有回頭路。那條船可能只是一艘普通的漁船。它足夠容納十二個門徒和耶穌。因此，它不是那種由堅固的鋼板製造能承受風暴的遠洋郵輪。由於當時是晚上，有限的能見度會使人更加懼怕。就像你在晚上沒有手電筒穿過森林時。你不知道會踩到什麼，或是一些動物是否會突然冒出來。未知的因素會增加你的恐懼感。門徒們試圖使船穩定下來。經文告訴我們，水正在湧進來。他們處於危險狀況。彼得是個天生衝動的人，他可能不斷發司號

令。「雅各和約翰，把帆收起來！」「安德烈和腓力，繼續划船！」「其他的人，看看能找到什麼東西把水潑出去！」我們會問暴風是從哪裡來的。那個地區的地理環境有助於我們了解情況。那個湖是在水平線以下七百英尺。它的周圍都是山。從峽谷衝下來的冷空氣與湖上的熱空氣相撞就會隨時產生風暴。現在，門徒們正在努力搶救。你可能還記得福音書的記載，那十二個人中有四個是專業漁夫。他們在附近長大，並經常在同一個湖中捕魚。很可能他們之前也經歷過類似的風暴。他們的知識和經驗現在似乎毫無用處。這就像一個熟練的律師，有一個不聽話的孩子犯了法，或是一個經驗豐富的會計師要申請破產。這些專家陷在了他們本來善長解決的問題。恐懼會使人覺得無助。當我們不確定結果時，我們自然會想到最壞的情況。幾週前在我居住的地區發生龍捲風警告。它也可能影響你住的社區。那天一大早，我手機上的警報把我吵醒了。於是我便打開電視看氣象報導。不久之後，附近的警笛也響起來。我叫醒了我的家人，把他們聚集在客廳裡。我還趕快地收拾一些重要物品。萬一我們的家被毀了，我起碼保留一些重要的文件和電腦。老實告訴你，我真的覺得害怕。如果龍捲風降落並夷平了我的房子怎麼辦？還好暴風雨很快過去了，甚至沒有下多少雨。潛在的危機是測驗我們預防措施的好方法。我們應該在平時就定好計劃。例如，基督徒購買人壽保險一點都沒有錯。這樣做並不意味著你對神的信心軟弱。相反，它表明你對家人負責任。恐懼是神賦予我們的自然本能。它提高了我們對潛在危險的警覺。問題是我們如何以正面的態度處理恐懼。我們需要像門徒那樣評估現狀。我們了解問題的迫切性和嚴重性。問題出現時，我們可以請教專家。神賜給那些人智慧，使他們能夠做研究，並制定出有效的解決方案。除了做好所有準備工夫之外，我們透過禱告把恐懼交給主。我們承認自己的軟弱。我們求神保護。我們為未知的情況禱告。我們也祈求神增加我們的信心。我們向主呼求。那正是門徒接下來做的。

2. 錯誤的結論 Incorrect Reasoning

那十二個人面對危急的現狀。風暴太利害了，他們無法應付。就在他們盡一切努力防止船隻傾覆時，他們注意到有一個人沒有幫忙。那個人就是他們的老師耶穌。祂竟然在船尾睡覺！然後門徒得出了一個錯誤的結論：就算他們全部沒命，他們的老師也不在乎。門徒們可能會有錯綜複雜的情緒。他們感到驚訝，當船像過山車一樣搖晃時，仍然有人可以入睡。他們可能會生耶穌的氣。當其他隊友如此努力拚命時，怎麼會有人那麼自私呢？門徒除了感到驚訝和生氣之外，還感到困惑。他們向耶穌抱怨：「夫子！我們喪命，你不顧嗎？」他們的感覺是真實的，雖然他們的結論是錯誤的。當人們需要耶穌時，耶穌在哪裡？我們是否也曾經遇到過這種情況呢？當我們陷入困境，但神似乎保持沉默。在聖經裡有許多詩人也有同樣的哀嘆。例如，大衛王在詩篇 13:1-2 中說：1 耶和華啊，你忘記我要到幾時呢？要到永遠嗎？你掩面不顧我要到幾時呢？2 我心裡籌算，終日愁苦，要到幾時呢？我的仇敵升高壓制我，要到幾時呢？大衛感到被神遺棄。他渴望聽到神的回應。那些不相信

神的人在嘲笑他：「你說你的神是真實的。他現在在哪裡？他怎麼不救你呢？」大衛和門徒的經驗告訴我們什麼？在風暴中感到恐懼甚至懷疑神的都是可以理解的。神知道我們內心的一切。我們可以在祂面前表示自己的軟弱並向祂傾心吐意。我的弟兄們：即使你從未在任何人面前哭過，你也可以在神面前流幾滴眼淚。在情緒消退之後，我們必須做出選擇。我們是相信我們的恐懼，還是相信比我們恐懼大得多的全能神？我們的思想不應該停留在錯誤的結論，以為神不在乎。祂是我們的供應者和保護者。祂愛我們，甚至差遣耶穌為我們的罪而死。在雅各書的第一章中，作者鼓勵讀者們在面對各種試煉時要站穩。他還提醒他們為一件事祈求。雅各書 1:5-7 說：5 你們中間若有缺少智慧的，應當求那厚賜與眾人、也不斥責人的神，主就必賜給他。6 只要憑著信心求，一點不疑惑；因為那疑惑的人，就像海中的波浪，被風吹動翻騰。7 這樣的人不要想從主那裡得什麼。神喜悅我們尋求祂的智慧。他不會責怪我們：「怎麼又是你？為什麼你那麼笨？」神應許與我們分享祂的智慧。因此，當我們求問祂時，我們應該充滿信心，不要被風暴搖動。為什麼我們在風暴中需要智慧？我們可能只希望得到一個快速的解決方案來擺脫困境。但是，我們更需要的是認識神。風暴可能是我們調整與神關係的契機。比起相信神，我是否更相信我的銀行帳戶和我的經驗？神是否在提醒我不要專注在這個世界的財富？我是不是需要更多的操練謙卑和忍耐？風暴甚至可能是神管教的方式之一。我需要承認某些罪才能與神和好。你的情況可能與其他人的情況不大相同，並且你當前的風暴與過去的其他風暴也許不一樣。無論如何，我們應該來到主面前，尋求智慧以辨明祂的心意。說不定耶穌在風暴中要給你新的功課，就像祂對門徒一樣。

3. 嶄新的認識 Innovative Realization

門徒們試圖克服一個危急的現狀。他們得出錯誤的結論，認為耶穌不關心他們的安全。他們卻沒有想到這次經歷使他們對耶穌有了嶄新的認識。首先，門徒認識到耶穌的話語具有能力。在一切努力都失敗之後，門徒們把耶穌吵醒。耶穌隨後斥責風暴：「住了吧！靜了吧！」當耶穌發出命令時，風立刻平靜下來。這真是個神蹟。耶穌的話語帶著權柄，因為祂是神。神一說，事情就這樣成就。耶穌用祂的話來趕鬼：「出來！」然後，邪靈便離開他們所附著的人。耶穌使拉撒路從死裡復活時，祂是喊叫他的名字：「拉撒路，從墳墓裡出來！」今天的經文說耶穌斥責風暴。

「斥責」一詞的意思是責備，例如斥責別人犯錯。在耶穌上十字架之前，祂告訴門徒祂要受害並死去，但祂會在死後第三天復活。彼得便抓住耶穌，並責備祂胡言亂語。但是耶穌卻轉過身來，斥責彼得，說：「撒但，退我後邊去吧！」那時，魔鬼利用彼得的同情心作為十字架的攔阻。如今，耶穌斥責風暴，彷彿天氣就像個不聽話的孩子。耶穌發出命令，使混亂的局面回復正常。通過見證奇蹟，門徒們對耶穌有第二方面嶄新的認識：主有權柄掌管大自然。門徒之前害怕淹死。經文說如今他們卻害怕使風浪平靜的那一位。他們互相對問：「這到底是誰，連風和海也聽從他了。」寫福音書的馬可甚至不需要提供答案。耶穌是全能的神。耶穌的權柄超越屬

靈的世界。祂的權柄超越疾病和人的生命。耶穌是整個宇宙的大老闆。如果門徒對耶穌有信心，他們就不用害怕了。耶穌平靜風浪之後，祂責備十二個弟兄，說：「**為什麼膽怯？你們還沒有信心嗎？**」到目前為止，門徒應該已經對他們的老師累積了足夠的信心。他們看到耶穌行許多奇蹟。但是他們不相信耶穌會在風暴中保護他們。根據路加的記載，耶穌問門徒：「**你的信心在哪裡呢？**」彷彿門徒忘記使用他們已經擁有的信心一樣。那使我想起了一個信用卡廣告。它的口號是：「你的錢包裡有什麼？」如果你隨身攜帶那張信用卡，那麼你便應該在需要時使用它。耶穌向門徒挑戰：「我已經給了你們所需要的信心。不要把它藏起來。使用它！」耶穌今天也問我們同樣的問題：「你的信心在哪裡呢？」如果我們的信心是建立在金錢和健康等等短暫的東西上，那麼當風暴來臨時，我們的信心就會倒塌。作為基督徒，我們的信心應該是建立在神永恆的話語上。神的應許永遠堅定。祂答應永遠不會撇下我們，也不會丟棄我們。祂承諾成為我們的好牧人、我們的盾牌和我們的高台。祂承諾使萬事互相效力，讓愛祂的人得益處。聖經從來沒有保證，當我們跟隨耶穌時，一切都會一帆風順。提出這種主張的人大概看的聖經跟我們讀的並不一樣。神不一定從風暴中拯救我們，但祂會給予我們足夠的恩典使我們度過風暴。門徒們被嚇個半死，他們全身濕透，也許他們的船也受到了一些損壞。我們可能在風暴中承受損失。可能是我們的金錢、財物或健康。但不要忘記，耶穌仍然在掌權。祂有一些重要的功課要我們在風暴中學習。最近有人在微信上分享一個獨特的見解。我們正在面對的病毒的代號為 COVID-19。它代表著 2019 年新冠狀病毒的疾病 (**Coronavirus disease of 2019**)。但是對基督徒來說，我們必須記住，基督的能力超過一切病毒和傳染病 (**Christ is over all viruses and infectious diseases**)。神比我們看不到的這小小的病毒偉大得多。祂比我們將遇到的任何風暴都要有能力。

結論 CONCLUSION

耶穌向我們表明，祂在我們最迫切的關頭仍然值得信賴。在那個暴風的夜晚，耶穌與門徒在同一條船上。不管有什麼風暴來臨，耶穌也與我們在同一條船上。無論是漂浮還是下沉，耶穌都會與我們同在。祂是全宇宙的主宰，也是我們生命的主宰。田納西州第一位感染新冠狀病毒的人 Chris 非常清楚，他在風暴中並不孤單。這個家庭收到了幾百個陌生人鼓勵的電話、信息和短信，向他們保證與他們一家人在一起。Chris 說，每個人都以相同的五個字作結束：「我為你禱告！」Chris 雖然被限制在自己的房子裡，但他說他在這個群體裡找到了自己的「教會」。他鼓勵所有人成為鄰居的教會。當你觀看這堂講道時，你不在我們的教堂大樓裡面。這並不等於我們的教會不存在。我們正在同一條船上一起度過這場風暴。請不要忘記為你的弟兄姐妹們禱告。你可以通過短信、電子郵件或電話表達你的關心。不要只是發送有關病毒的信息。你也可以分享一些經文來互相鼓勵。憐憫那些可能比你更害怕的人。特別要照顧那些單身的人、丈夫在別的城市工作的太太、孩子們沒有住在附近的長輩們以及患有慢性疾病的人。讓我們一同經歷神的恩典。