

⁴⁵Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. ⁴⁷Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land.

Mark 6:45-52 (NIV)

⁴⁸He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Mark 6:45-52 (NIV)

⁵¹Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵²for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

Mark 6:45-52 (NIV)

GOING THROUGH THE STORM

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Isaiah 43:2 (NIV)

Take Courage in the Storm

"To take courage also means 'be of good cheer.' That is exactly what the terror-stricken disciples needed."

Kenneth Wuest

"I learned very early in life never to take counsel in my fears."

General George S. Patton

The opposite of courage is fear, and the equivalent of fear is unbelief.



During World War II, a US Army Transport Ship carrying 902 servicemen was struck by a German submarine. Panic and chaos quickly set in as men raced for lifeboats in the frigid waters off the coast of Greenland.

The four chaplains worked to distribute life vests to soldiers escaping into the frigid waters. When they ran out, each minister simultaneously removed their jacket and gave them to the soldiers. They simply gave their jackets to the next men in line. One survivor would later say, "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven."



As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains--arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers and singing hymns. Of the 902 men aboard, only 230 survived.

Before boarding, one of the chaplains, asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return, that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty . . . to never be a coward, and have the strength, courage and understanding of men."

Courage is the feet and fists of our faith.

Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.

- Psalm 144:1 (NIV)

1st Baron Lord John Lawrence British Imperial Statesman 1811-1879



On his bust in Westminster Abbey, it reads: "He feared man so little because he feared God so much."

Discern Christ in the Storm

"It is I'- the pronoun is used here for emphasis. Literally, 'It is I and nobody else.'

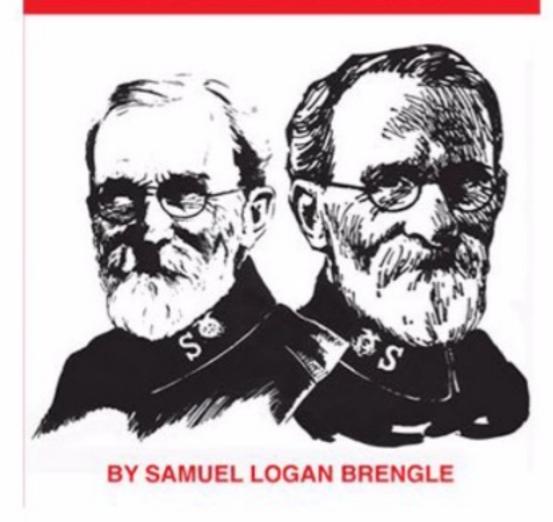
'Be not afraid.' The present imperative is used, forbidding the continuance of an action already going on. It is 'Stop being afraid.'"

Kenneth Wuest

"What is the difference between an obstacle and an opportunity? Our attitude toward it. Every opportunity has a difficulty, and every difficulty has an opportunity."

J. Sidlow Baxter

Helps To Holiness



Samuel Brengle, a preacher and minister at the Salvation Army in Boston in the late 1800's, was witnessing to a man outside a bar. Some men threw a brick at his head, and he nearly died, spending eighteen months in recovery.

During those 18 months, he wrote "Helps to Holiness," his first book that would sell thousands of copies.