

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records in a business setting. It highlights how proper record-keeping can help in identifying trends, making informed decisions, and ensuring compliance with various regulations. The text emphasizes that records should be organized systematically and stored securely to prevent loss or damage.

Next, the document addresses the challenges of data management in the digital age. With the increasing volume of data generated by businesses, it becomes crucial to have robust systems in place for data storage, retrieval, and security. The author suggests investing in reliable hardware and software solutions to manage this data effectively.

The third section focuses on the role of technology in streamlining business operations. It explores how automation and digital tools can reduce manual errors, save time, and improve overall efficiency. Examples of such technologies include accounting software, project management tools, and customer relationship management systems.

Finally, the document concludes by stressing the importance of regular audits and reviews. By periodically checking records and systems, businesses can identify potential issues early on and take corrective actions. This proactive approach helps in maintaining the integrity and accuracy of the organization's data and operations.

1. Jesus deliberately directed the disciples into a challenging situation. (v. 22)

22Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³*After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. When evening came he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.*

1. Jesus deliberately directed the disciples into a challenging situation. (v. 22)

Truth To Remember:

- Storms are a part of life.

“In this world you will have trouble”

John 16:33

- God uses “storms” in our life:
 - to correct us (Jonah)
 - to perfect us (Peter)

Many Christians have the mistaken idea that obedience to God's will produces "smooth sailing."

Warren Wiersbe

"Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise person who built their house on a rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not collapse, because it had built its foundation on the rock."

Matthew 7:24-25

We rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 5:4-5

2. In the challenge he directed them into:

a. Jesus was praying for them. (v. 23)

After he dismissed the crowd, he went up on a mountainside to pray. When evening came, he was there alone . . .

b. Jesus came to them . . . but on his schedule. (v. 24)

. . . the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

Note – The Lord waited until they were into the deep water and far away from land.

c. Jesus surprised them with his methods

(v.v. 26-27)

When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost!” they said, and cried out fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

3. Jesus invited Peter to a new level of belief.

- Only now is Peter in a place where he can learn & grow.

“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter said, “tell me to come out to you on the water!”

“Come,” Jesus replied.

NOTE – Anyone can sit in the boat & watch. But it takes a real person of faith to leave the safety of the boat and walk on the water out to Jesus.

THIS MORNING'S QUESTION:

“You of little faith,” Jesus said, “Why did you doubt?”

Peter’s probable answer. . .

- *Why did I doubt? . . . because you put me in an “impossible situation!”*

Exactly . . . that’s the point!

Truth: It is only when we're vulnerable that we begin to understand God.

4. Jesus was faithful! (v.v. 31-32)

- **He proved himself to Peter & the others again.**

Immediately, Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter (while he was sinking). . . And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.

Two Questions That Need To Be Asked:

1. Where is God asking you to get out of the boat today?
 - are you going to obey him or not?
2. Do you *really* believe that He will prove Himself faithful to you?
 - not because you're testing Him, but because He's testing you.

