

My "Mark Five"

Mark 6:45-52

God's Word is a priceless comfort in our deep distresses. God may give us a precious verse or verses to make our own. A friend has weathered storms of doubt and deep grief by clinging to her "Mark Five," truths which have brought immeasurable consolation.

1) "Be not afraid, only believe" (*Mark 5:36*). A father had received the worst possible news: "Thy daughter is dead." These were the Lord's words of quiet reassurance—fear ends where faith begins.

2) "Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid" (*Mark 6:50*). The disciples' boat was "in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves" (*Matthew 14:24*) because of "a great wind that blew" (*John 6:18*). They were terrified, but the Lord came to their aid in a form they didn't recognize, walking on the sea.

3) "He hath done all things well" (*Mark 7:37*). The people were "beyond measure astonished" (overwhelmed with amazement) at the power of God to heal; nothing is too hard for the Lord.

4) "Lord, I believe; help Thou mine unbelief" (*Mark 9:24*). Like the distraught father of his demon-possessed son, "help my unbelief" is often the cry of our hearts.

5) "Have faith in God" (*Mark 11:22*). True faith rests confidently upon the truth of God's Word, whether we understand or not. Faith is the belief that God is in control, that He is faithful to His promises, and that He will guide us through every obstacle we face.

When we have faith, we acknowledge that there is a higher Power at work, One that is far greater than any fear or challenge we may encounter. God has made it possible for us to "**Be not afraid,**" to "**Be of good cheer,**" to know that "**He hath done all things well,**" to believe, praying, "**Help Thou mine unbelief,**" and to truly "**Have faith in God.**"

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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