

**Elders:**

Rufus Barfield \* Donnie McDaniel

**Deacons:**

Paul Byas \* Antoine Holloway \* Michael Myrick \* Sheldon Smith

**Evangelist:**

Antoine Holloway

**Worship Times:**

Sunday Bible Study/9:30AM      Sunday Morning Worship/10:30AM  
Sunday Evening Worship/6:00PM      Wednesday Bible Study/7:30PM

**Meetings:**

Monday Sermon Recap      Discipleship Class  
December 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm      January 8<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am

Elders/Deacons Meeting

January 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 5:00pm

2011 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Jim Jonas of Centreville, Virginia

April 7<sup>th</sup>-10, 2011

2011 Vacation Bible School

June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2011

2011 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Mark Russell of Valparaiso, Indiana

October 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)

Rudale Blake \* Andrew Madison \* Ann Wise \* Lewis Wise

Prayer Requests

- David Ashabranner is relocating to Hawaii in January 2011.
- Donnie McDaniel had surgery on his ear this past Wednesday.
- Anne Wise's niece passed away this past Friday.

Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)

Anne Harrison \* Steven Chung \* Angelita Dillon \* John Okonkwo

Prayer Request (Traveling)

David Ashabranner \* Ruth Branson

Additional Announcements

- Adult Class for 2011 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter are: **Sunday Morning Upstairs** – The Book Of Romans; **Sunday Morning Downstairs** – A Study Of Authority (The Whole Year); **Wednesday Evening Upstairs** – Answering Religious Error; **Wednesday Evening Downstairs** – The Christian's Attitude (The First 3 Quarters Of The Year).

Contribution & Attendance Figures

December 12 <sup>th</sup>	\$2,660-Contribution	92-Attendance
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,865-Contribution	87-Attendance

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

Hear The Gospel \* Believe In Jesus \* Repent Of Our Sins \* Confess Christ To Be The Son Of God \* Be Baptized In Water \* Remain Faithful

**TODAY'S DATE: December 19, 2010**

Wildercroft  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**6330 Auburn Avenue  
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**Updated Every Monday & Thursday**

**A GOING CHURCH FOR A COMING LORD – ROMANS 16:16**

# Possessing Peace In The Pit Of Our Problems

**Mark 4:35-41- And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?**

The problems of life can be compared to a storm. In nature, there are sand storms, typhoons, tornadoes, hurricanes, snow storms, wind storms, tsunami, earthquakes, & thunderstorms. In life, we have storms too, but they are of a different nature. We have financial problems, relationship problems, sibling problems, parental problems, children problems, problems at work, problems at school, health problems, & even, church problems. Nevertheless, the Christian can possess peace in the midst of all these problems. Let us not lose sight of two important facts when we are going through the storms of life.

## **When Problems Arise, Do Not Lose Sight Of The Position We Are In**

In the story of **Mark 4:36-41**, the apostles were in the perfect will of God (**Hebrews 10:36**). Jesus told them to cross the lake in **Mark 4:35**. They were acting on His divine word. As Christians, we must remember “The will of God will never lead

us to where the grace of God cannot keep us.” The apostles acted on Christ’s words before (**Luke 5:4-6**) & a good thing happened then. Why wouldn’t something extraordinary happen now? In the Old Testament, Gideon acted on God’s word (**Judges 7:7**) & by the power of God; he was able to defeat a Midianite army with 300 men. The man, who had an infirmity for 38 years, at the pool of Bethesda acted on the word of Christ (**John 5:8-9**) & him being able to rise, take up his bed, & walk was the inevitable result. Those of us who are saved, we too had to act by responding to the word of God (**James 1:21**). There is always power in the gospel (**Romans 1:16**).

We can possess peace in the pit of our problems by staying in the right position (**1 John 1:5-7**) & by not being preoccupied with the world (**Matthew 6:19**).

## **When Problems Arise, Do Not Lose Sight Of The Person We Are With**

The person the apostles were with was Jesus. As Christians, we too are with Jesus. Notice, Jesus was already in the boat (**Mark 4:36**). Therefore, they should not have been fearful & neither should we, for God has not given us the spirit of fear (**2 Timothy 1:7**).

In this text, the apostles made a crucial mistake & we often make the same mistake: the size of the problem was overestimated. They thought they were perishing because they lost sight of who was with them. Unfortunately, exaggerating our problems is a common human trait. It is self centered & it reduces our energy for more worthwhile concerns. However, the apostles did do something right. When the tempest began to rage, they went to the right person, Jesus (**Mark 4:38**).

We can possess peace in the pit of our problems by going to Jesus (**Matthew 11:28**). By simply having Jesus present in our lives will cause us to be at peace in any storm (**Acts 27:22-25**).

**-Antoine N. Holloway**