

## A Christmas Change: Beyond Wonder to Life Changing Faith.

Key Question: How does God craft faith in us so that as we live by faith we become useful tools?

Luke 2:16-20

Mark 6:45-52

**Divine power and divine compassion = everything I need.**

- I. Vs.45-48 Faith can begin to grow in and through the storms of life.
  - a. Vs. 47-48 the disciples were sailing against a heavy storm
  - b. **Vs. 45-46** Christ made them go into the storm.
    - i. **God will take us where we have not intended to Go to produce in us what we could not achieve on our own.**
  - c. Vs. 52 He loves me and He will not turn from His work, he will continue until His work is complete.
  
- II. Vs. 48-50 Faith can grow as we see Almighty God working through our trials
  - a. Vs. 48 God will come to your aide
    - i. **Through Trials Remember: He is not after the situation; he is after you. He wants to transform the way you think about self, life, and Jesus.**
  
  - b. Vs. 49 Often we fail to see Him at work-
    - i. **In difficulty circumstances, we are more skilled at seeing ghosts than the messiah.**
  - c. Vs. 50 Jesus clarifies His position for us, "It is I"
    - i. **If you have Jesus you have hope.**
  
- III. Vs. 51-52 Faith can grow as we open our hearts to experience what Jesus has for us.
  - a. Vs. 51 Jesus speaks to the storm, it dies down, and the disciples are amazed.
    - i. **Amazement is something done with your brain, but faith is something you do with your heart and it changes the way you live.**
  
  - b. Vs. 52 The disciples experienced trials in order to change a calloused heart.
    - i. **The stony heart can not be penetrated, shaped, changed, or molded.**

Conclusion:

**Do you live your life with Christmas Wonder or Christmas Faith?**

**God may allow my heart to endure refining trials to produce a beautiful Christ in me and through me.**