

Jesus in the Midst JULY 11TH 2020

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Script Mt. 18:20

Intro - Memorizing Bible promises (Mt. 18:20).

A. What are some examples where Jesus was in the midst and what can we learn from them?

1. Jesus in the boat (Mt. 4:36-37).

a. Jesus was resting in God's care in the midst of the storm. When he awoke He not only rebuked the storm but also the disciples for their lack of faith that God would take care of them even if they forgot that He was in the boat with them.

b. The disciples forgot that he was in the boat. It was only after they tried to save themselves by fighting the storm that they remembered that it was at His command that they were crossing the sea.

2. On the road to Emmaus (Lk. 24).

a. This was after Jesus had been crucified, and the disciples did not yet believe in the resurrection. They are walking on the road to Emmaus and are sad and confused because Jesus was crucified.

b. They were hoping He was going to be a political deliverer from the Roman yoke of bondage when Jesus joins them along the road.

c. Jesus walked beside them and they knew it not.

3. The 3 Hebrew boys in the fiery furnace (Dan. 3; Isa. 43:2).

a. They were willing to give up their lives to stand up for what they believed.

b. They could not see their God but accepted His promises by faith and would not compromise.

4. The women at the tomb (Lk. 24:1-5).

a. The ladies go to the tomb early to anoint the dead body of Jesus and find the tomb empty.

b. Eleven different times Jesus told His followers that He would die and be resurrected but they forgot His words.

c. The angels had to remind them about Jesus' words that they forgot.

5. John the baptist announcing the Messiah (Lk. 3).

a. John announces Jesus as the Lamb of God, and tells the people that the Messiah is among them but they knew it not.

6. Peter walking on the water.

a. After Jesus feeds the 5000 the people want to take Him by force and crown Him king on the throne.

b. Jesus sends the disciples away on the lake and dismisses the crowd.

c. When Jesus appears to the disciples walking on the water they think He is a ghost, an omen of their destruction.

d. When Jesus speaks to them and identifies Himself then Peter asks if he can come out on the water with Jesus.

e. Peter walks securely until he takes his eyes off of Jesus and he begins to sink (Mt. 14:28-30).

B. What is the common denominator in all of these events? (Heb. 13:8).

1. Jesus was present even when they didn't know it.
2. There was some sort of crisis going on in their lives.
3. What did He do?
 - a. He performed miracles and empowered others to do the same.
 - b. He was resting securely in the Father's care while the storm howled around them.
 - c. He did what He promised to do; was resurrected on the third day.
4. Most of the time His followers either ignored His words or forgot them during the crisis.

5. Jesus was never caught off guard by the unexpected or crisis, but always gives us an example of resting in His father's care.
6. Who is He? He is the One that ...
 - a. Has all power.
 - b. Has unlimited resources.
 - c. Never slumbers.
 - d. Hears every prayer.

C. Summarizing what it means to have Jesus in the midst?

1. You gain confidence (Acts 4:13; Heb. 13:8).
 2. You will be able to do the impossible and work the works of God if you do not forget God and His word (Jn. 14:12; 2 Pet. 1:4).
3. You find direction and purpose in your life (Mt. 10:39).

D. Is He Really in the midst of ...

1. Your life?
2. Your language?
3. Your schedule and time?
4. Your health?
5. Your money?

Do you gather in His name?