

# RADICAL REPORT



Cindy Moore

***“There are times, in our life’s journey, when we don’t know where we are going – the path is not clear.”***

There are times, in our life’s journey, when we don’t know where we are going – the path is not clear. We are living one day, one step at a time, doing what we know to do: getting up each morning, driving the kids to school, going to work, taking care of life’s business, day in and day out. We are faithful to the small things that need to be done as we wait on the Lord to give us clarity, open a door, make a change and answer our prayers. In times like these, a promise in Psalm 37:23 comes to mind:

*“The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand.”*

We can be assured that the Lord is involved in and directing our steps, even when, in the confusion, we cannot see where He is leading us. Most importantly, He is holding on to us. The passage says, “Though they stumble...”. We will stumble in life,

but the promise is that God is holding on to us. He is right here, clutching our hand like a parent grasping the hand of a wobbly toddler; cheering her on as she takes her teetering steps and picking her up when she stumbles. He is not letting go of us.

He sees the path in front of us better than we do. Let us trust that He knows what is best and will guide us to right where we need to be, when we need to be there.

I hope the message from Donnie this month will encourage you.

Pray for us this month, as we will be doing the annual Easter Sunrise Service at Donnie’s brother’s equestrian center. It’s a great time of ministry. Also, pray as we prepare for Summer Camp that student’s lives will be greatly impacted by the Lord. Thank you so much for partnering with us!

***Happy Easter... He is Risen!***

## LET US GO TO THE OTHER SIDE

DONNIE MOORE

“That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, ‘Let us go over to the other side.’ Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, ‘Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?’ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, ‘Quiet! Be still!’ Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.” Mark 4:35-39

As the long day of ministry came to a close Jesus was exhausted and wanted to rest. He instructed the disciples to push the boat further offshore and begin a journey to the other side. What does Jesus do? He gives them a promise: “Let us go to the other side.”

### 1. The Promise

We want explanations. God doesn’t give explanations; God gives promises. We wish we could Google the question and have God give us the answer instantaneously. We want to know the “whys?” and we want to know “How come?” It’s hard sometimes when we are walking by faith, because we don’t understand when we’re going through stuff.

Mark described these veteran fisherman as being terrified – this was a life-threatening situation. The violence of the waves was filling and sinking the boat (v.37). Sometimes we have a tendency to say that people get in trouble because they have done something wrong. There are people in scripture who faithfully walked with Jesus only to end up in prison, fiery furnaces, lions' dens, shipwrecked and even martyred for their faith. One of the most puzzling human experiences is to recognize that the will of God sent these men into what seemed like a life-threatening situation. God gives them a promise; they get out in the middle of the sea and a storm hits. Now we have a problem.

## 2. The Problem

It's not what knocks you down that really makes a difference. It's what makes you get back up. Jesus said, "In this world you will have trouble." Someone said, "Adversity is another way to measure the greatness of individuals. I never had a crisis, I never had a problem that didn't make me stronger." Every problem introduces a person to himself.

How do you relate to a sleeping Jesus? They're out there in the middle of the storm and the one who told them to get in the boat and go to the other side? He's asleep. "Hey, Jesus! Could you wake up and die with us?" Have you ever been in a situation and you ask, "God, where are you in this?" Have you ever been hit with something so hard that you question God's existence? Have you ever gone through something where you say, "God, do you even know where I live?" And here is Jesus, the Lord of the rocking boat, asleep and not answering their cries for help. In the middle of the crisis the disciples had forgotten the promise. Don't ever forget in the dark what God has told you in the light. He said, "Get in the boat, go to the other side." That is the promise! As they're bailing water, can't you hear them screaming above the pounding waves, "Jesus, don't you care if we drown?" Let me give you a thought, when you can't track God, you can trust God. When you can't trace him, you can trust him. Jesus wakes up, barely clears the sleep from his eyes, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm (a great calm). As suddenly as the storm arose, deliverance came. At the command of the Lord the crisis ended. He rebuked the storm as a master would rebuke a barking dog. To the utter astonishment of the veteran fisherman the wind quit blowing and waves lay down. Peace came immediately. Jesus is the provision.

## 3. Provision

God got the credit for bringing them through the storm. There was no credit to their rowing ability. There are some dimensions of God that cannot be taught. They have to be experienced. There is no way to describe what the three Hebrew boys understood about God because of their experience in the fiery furnace. With God, there are – comfort and joy in sorrow, peace which surpasses understanding.

### We learn lessons in storms:

1. Struggle produces strength
2. Sometimes crisis is necessary for change.
3. Don't let your present condition decide your future position.
4. God works a good thing through a bad moment.

We never see so clearly as we do through the eyes that have been washed with tears. The Potter uses two things to mold our lives: touching and turning. With every turn of the wheel "God is making me." Hear the words of Jesus, "Let's go to the other side." When you get on the other side of the storm, you'll say, "God, I didn't like that storm, but I'm a better, stronger person." Jesus is the provision. He's going to bring you through.

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