

## Episode Title: Warrior Trait #1 Believing and Trusting the One Who Called You

### Show Description:

Being a Warrior takes trust, perseverance and knowing who the One who purposed you before you were formed is. A Warrior knows that he or she knows. Join us in this episode as we look at the first trait of a Battle Ready Warrior in Warrior Battle Bootcamp.

### Show Notes:

#### Warrior Trait #1 Believing and Trusting the One Who Called You

Mark 4:35-41

Proverbs 4:1, 4, 13

As evening came, Jesus said to His disciples, " Let's cross to the other side of the lake" He was already in the boat, so they started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). But soon a fierce storm arose. High waves began to break into the boat until it was nearly full of water. Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion.

I want to stop here for a moment and I want you to picture this scene. These men were seasoned fishermen, they had been through storms many times before. Why was this different? They knew how to handle the boat, they knew about the changing weather and how to stay focused, and yet, they started to panic to loose focus, to question their ability to stay strong. As all this chaos was breaking around them, they turn and look to see what Jesus was doing.

Wow, He wasn't helping, he was asleep at the back of the boat. Not just sitting there asleep, he was comfy with his head on a cushion. Really?!

Now I want you to stop, look at why the writer of Mark specifically put the fact that Jesus was asleep at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. Not a care in the world. Not worried about anything.

The story goes on to say that the 12 men in their panicked state of mind Frantically woke him up, shouting, " Teacher don't you even care that we are going to drown?" Then Jesus casually wakes up. He didn't jump up, he didn't even acknowledge their panic. The Word said, When he woke-up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waters, "Quiet down!" Suddenly the wind stopped and there was a great calm." He then asked them, " Why are you so afraid? Do you still not have faith in me!" And they were filled with awe and said among themselves, "Who is this man that even the wind and waves obey him?"

It's amazing to me how when I was young and I heard this story – many times – and I always wondered how come Jesus slept, peacefully at the back of that boat while all his disciples were trying to save everything and everyone. Seasoned boats men

who knew about storms. I even felt a little sorry for them when Jesus asked them why they were afraid, didn't they have faith in Him?

Now I read this story and it takes on a whole new meaning...

You see, those men, the ones that Jesus hand picked to be His disciples had been with him constantly; they had seen all those miracles, they had heard all the stories he had told and had the meaning revealed to them. Can you even imagine what they had been a part of, walking with the Son of God? Look at what they had witnessed, what they had been taught. WOW! Jesus even empowered them to go out and do what He was doing. They lived this miraculous life daily.

I believe that Jesus wasn't really asleep. I believe He wanted to see how they would react when the pressure was on, If they truly understood all they had seen and been a part of. Had they learned all that he had taught them.

So, when that storm came up --- which wasn't the enemy trying to keep them from crossing over, it was a test. Let me take a side step here, we have to quit living from the stand point that everything is from the enemy. That when times get hard or you have that pressure on you, you know, financially, in relationships, marriage, kids or where ever you find yourself struggling, sometimes its our loving Father refining us, taking those sharp edges we have and smoothing them out, it's how a Warrior gets stronger for the real battles. Now back to the disciples and how they were reacting to the stress of the storm they were in. Remember, those 12 men, the ones He called to be His disciples were now under pressure, how are they reacting? They were fishermen, at least Peter, James and John were. I can see them frantically yelling orders, bailing water, trying to keep the boat on course. As each huge wave threatened to take them under, their eyes were everywhere at once..... Everywhere except on the one who can save them.

Then when they stood to lose everything including their life, I often wonder which one realized that it was time to wake- up Jesus? They remembered that Jesus could save them. Can you relate? We often try everything on our own, all those prayer with the plan B in case our prayers don't work. So can you see one of them realizing that Jesus, the one who could save them was with them and yelling to the others, "Go wake up Jesus". Their focused now switched from everything they were battling in the storm to the one who could save.

Didn't they realize that if Jesus said "Let's go to the other side" that it meant they were going to be there? Look back over your life and see how many times Jesus has said to you "Let's go to the other side".

"Hear my instructions, carry out my instructions."

So Jesus opening his eyes, frustrated and a little let down that His chosen 12 still didn't get it spoke to the storm and calmed the wind and waves. He took care of their immediate need. He calmed the situation. Then he turned to them and just asked a simple question, " Why are you afraid?" He had already said they were going to the other side, did they doubt what he said? Then he made the statement, "Do you

still not have faith in me.” I pictured Jesus kind of quietly saying this, a little hurt, disappointed.

If the Father has given you instructions, then why do we question it or try to find a better way, do it on our own. Do we not have faith in what He said? Think about all the times Jesus has brought you through..... He’s never left you to do it on your own. He has calmed the storms. He repeatedly reminds us to believe in Him. He said we’d get to the other side.

Let’s take this to looking at the first traits of a true Warrior and how we will get Battle Ready and what your assignment is for the week. Remember, as we start this bootcamp you are going to have to be real with yourself. Let’s not sugar coat our lives anymore or be someone we think others want us to be. We are now where the rubber meets the road.

- A Warrior stands in the full knowledge of who our Lord is.

- Who do you say He is to you? Search your heart and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas that you need to deal with or discard, let go of. This one can be a process and it may take longer, much longer to deal with some of those heart issues.

- A Warrior has learned to rest in His presence. Laying our head on His cushion. We fight from a place of rest. Look back in our story about how Jesus was calm, not concerned, not worried. That is the place we need to get to over any situation we are in. I want you to think about your struggles, past and present. Be honest with yourself and look at how you handle pressure. I once heard a pastor say that you don’t know someone and where they stand with the Lord until they are under pressure. The real Christian comes out at that point.

- A Warrior doesn’t flinch when trouble comes because a Warrior knows that the Father has already handled it.

- With this trait, you will need to take what you have written down for the first two traits and research, apply His promises to your each situation. So if it is in the past then how did you get through it? What did you do to handle it? If you are in a struggle now, what promises of His word are you standing on? Are you figuring it out in your strength or His?

And last, as you re-read this story and meditate on it, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what insight He is revealing in it for you. We do this because each one of us is different, and we are at different places in our relationship with Jesus. So what is revealed to me, may be a little different to what is revealed to you. What does this testimony in Mark chapter 4 say to you and what lesson are you taking from it?

Over the next sessions we will dive into the Warrior state of mind, spirit and body. We will get deeper into what makes a person a true Warrior.

What makes a good soldier? Which are you? The Kingdom of God has both. We will look at this identity complex it seems we are all struggling with. Not your typical identity lessons, but what the Word says about you in particular.

Because you are created for this time, in the place you live, and with a purpose to fulfill.

Let me remind you, We have a long road ahead of us and it won't be easy. There are valleys to walk through, mountains to climb, rivers, lakes and oceans to get to the other side. But thank you Lord – you've already said we are there.

I started us out easy; it's a starting point. For this week our Warrior mantra is this; I am a Warrior. I will stand in full knowledge of who my God is and what He has done, can do and is doing. I stand in His strength, which flows through me. When I am weak – He is strong.

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