

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Job 38:1, 8-11.

Job has asked: *"Why must we suffer pain and tempest?"* God answers that it is not for us to know.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 14-17.

We know Christ not only as a man who taught, preached and served his contemporaries, but also as glorified and alive now.

Gospel: Mark 4: 35-41.

Jesus asks: *"Why are so frightened when I am with you?"*



Points for Reflection

When we suffer, dangers and fears come upon us. We are often afraid and sometimes overcome by them. We ask why? We forget the power of the risen Christ in us, and that through him we may help ourselves and others.

1. In the **First Reading**, we see that Job also asks why? And he is told that he cannot fathom why God permits suffering.
2. In today's **Gospel**, Jesus invites his disciples to cross Lake Galilee with him. They readily accept his invitation. But when their boat is in the middle of the lake, a violent squall comes up. Waves break over the boat, which starts to fill up. Strong winds threaten their lives. They feel abandoned by Jesus who is sound asleep, oblivious to their troubles.

They wake him up and remonstrate: *"Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"* They are, in fact, asking him if he really cares. Their words reveal their doubt of Jesus' care and love. It is as if Jesus cannot be counted on.

The Lord's reaction is typical of a true friend. He calms the sea. He asks: *"Why are you terrified? Do you not have faith?"* What he is saying is this: "I am here for you. Don't you know me?"

The disciples' reaction is one of great awe. But it also reveals that they still do not know Jesus fully and, hence, do not trust him completely. They have walked with Jesus, eaten with him, heard him speak, and witnessed his miracles. They call him *"Teacher"*, but they have yet to see him as a friend they can count on. The incident of the calming of the storm still reveals them as men of little faith.

3. When we find ourselves in trouble, does our faith inspire us to call and hang on to the Lord? Have we reached the conviction that the love of Christ who died for us would not allow anything to separate us from him? (see **Second Reading**)

Our faith should tell us that the Lord is always around. He may appear “sound asleep” as when he seems so distant. But he is there whenever we call upon him. Maybe we should strive to know our Lord better. Then we can rest secure in him even when life’s storms come up.

Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (E-mail: sacredheart@netvigator.com)		
Phone:	Office hours: 27922967 (with answering machine) After office hours: 27920181 Fax: 27922967	Eucharistic Celebrations:
Parish Priest:	Fr Carlo Tei carlotei@gmail.com Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	Sundays: 9.00 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese) Anticipated Sunday Masses Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
Secretary:	Miss Tse Choi Ping Office hours: Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	Confessions: Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
Parish Council	Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm

Kids' Corner

Colour the picture below.

