

Take courage!  
Take heart!

Mark 4:21-23

He said to them,

“Do you bring in a lamp to put it  
under a bowl or a bed?

Instead, don’t you put it on its stand?

For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed,  
and whatever is concealed  
is meant to be brought out into the open.

“If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.”

YOU...?!?

Metaphysical:

Who am I?

Nothing.

Ethical:

Who am I?

Not worthy.

Existential:

Who am I?

Not sure.

Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins  
in which you once walked,  
following the course of this world,  
following the prince of the power of the air,  
the spirit that is now at work  
in the sons of disobedience –  
among whom we all once lived  
in the passions of our flesh,  
carrying out the desires of the body and the mind,  
and were by nature children of wrath,  
like the rest of mankind.

Ephesians 2:1-10

But God, being rich in mercy,  
because of the great love with which he loved us,  
even when we were dead in our trespasses,  
made us alive together with Christ –

by grace you have been saved –  
and raised us up with him and seated us with him  
in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,  
so that in the coming ages he might show  
the immeasurable riches of his grace  
in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:1-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith.  
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,  
not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

For we are his workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand,  
that we should walk in them.

Mark 4:21-23

He said to them,

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under a bowl or a bed?

Instead, don’t you put it on its stand?

For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed,  
and whatever is concealed  
is meant to be brought out into the open.

“If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Mark 4:24-25

“Consider carefully what you hear,” he continued.

“With the measure you use,  
it will be measured to you – and even more.

“Whoever has will be given more;  
whoever does not have,  
even what he has will be taken from him.”

TAKE COURAGE! God has called you!

YOU...?!?

Metaphysical:

Who am I?

Nothing.

Ethical:

Who am I?

Not worthy.

Existential:

Who am I?

Not sure.

Pragmatic:

Who am I?

Nobody.

Mark 4:26-29

He also said,

“This is what the kingdom of God is like.

A man scatters seed on the ground.

Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up,

the seed sprouts and grows,

though he does not know how.

All by itself the soil produces grain –

first the stalk, then the head,

then the full kernel in the head.

As soon as the grain is ripe,

he puts the sickle to it,

because the harvest has come.”

Mark 4:30-32

Again he said, “What shall we say  
the kingdom of God is like,  
or what parable shall we use to describe it?

“It is like a mustard seed,  
which is the smallest seed  
you plant in the ground.

“Yet when planted, it grows  
and becomes the largest of all garden plants,  
with such big branches that the birds of the air  
can perch in its shade.”

Psalm 127:1

Unless the LORD builds the house,  
those who build it labor in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:57-58

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Therefore, my beloved brothers,  
be steadfast, immovable,  
always abounding in the work of the Lord,  
knowing that in the Lord  
your labor is not in vain.

Philippians 2:13

For it is God who works in you,  
both to will and to work  
for his good pleasure.

TAKE COURAGE!

God has called you!

TAKE COURAGE!

God is working in you!

Mark 4:33-34

With many similar parables  
Jesus spoke the word to them,  
as much as they could understand.

He did not say anything to them  
without using a parable.

But when he was alone with his own disciples,  
he explained everything.

YOU...?!?

Metaphysical:

Who am I?

Nothing.

Ethical:

Who am I?

Not worthy.

Existential:

Who am I?

Not sure.

Pragmatic:

Who am I?

Nobody.

Epistemological:

Who am I?

Afraid.

Mark 4:35-36

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.

Mark 4:37-38

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?”

Mark 4:39-41

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves,  
“Quiet! Be still!”

Then the wind died down  
and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples,  
“Why are you so afraid?  
Do you still have no faith?”

They were terrified and asked each other,  
“Who is this?  
Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

Be still my soul,  
Thy God doth undertake  
To guide the future as He has the past.  
Thy hope thy confidence, let nothing shake  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still my soul,  
the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

~Katharina von Schlegel

Mark 6:49

When they saw him walking on the sea  
they thought it was a ghost, and cried out,  
for they all saw him and were terrified.

But immediately he spoke to them and said,  
“Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

John 16:33

“I have said these things to you,  
that in me you may have peace.

“In the world you will have tribulation.  
But take heart;  
I have overcome the world.”

TAKE COURAGE!

TAKE COURAGE!

TAKE COURAGE!

God has called you!

God is working in you!

God is with you, always!

Verse 1

Be still my soul  
The Lord is on thy side  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain  
Leave to thy God  
To order and provide

Verse 1 (cont'd)

In every change He faithful will remain

Be still my soul

Thy best, thy heav'nly Friend

Thro' thorny ways

Leads to a joyful end

Verse 2

Be still my soul  
Thy God doth undertake  
To guide the future as He has the past  
Thy hope thy confidence  
Let nothing shake

Verse 2 (cont'd)

All now mysterious shall be bright at last

Be still my soul

The waves and winds still know

His voice who ruled them

While He dwelt below

Verse 3

Be still my soul  
The hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord  
When disappointment  
Grief and fear are gone

Verse 3 (cont'd)

Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored

Be still my soul

When change and tears are past

All safe and blessed

We shall meet at last