

Esther and Emmett on Waking up to God's Love!

(Emmett has his head down, and is snoring)

Esther: Hi Emmett...Emmett... are you asleep Emmett! Emmett...wake up! Wake up! WAKE UP!!!!

Emmett: (looking up) Peace! Be still!....Hi Esther!

Esther: Were you really asleep?

Emmett: Nope!

Esther: Then why were you pretending to be asleep?

Emmett: Because...I was pretending...to be...Jesus!

Esther: What!

Emmett: Peace! Be still!

Esther: Why do you keep saying that?

Emmett: Because that's what Jesus said when they woke him up in the boat.

Esther: Oh, this is the story about Jesus and his disciples crossing the lake in a boat!

Emmett: Yes...and while they were on the lake a big storm came up. There was a huge wind (makes sound of wind) and the waves were huge (makes sound of waves) and water from the waves was splashing into the boat (makes sound of water).

Esther: It sounds like it was quite a storm.

Emmett: It was! And the disciples were worried that the boat might flip over, or sink, or something bad. And guess what Jesus was doing during the storm...I'll give you a clue... (puts his head down and snores).

Esther: It's just a guess...was Jesus sleeping?

Emmett: Good guess! Yes, he was sleeping! Who sleeps during a wind storm (makes sound of wind).

Esther: I guess Jesus does!

Emmett: Yeah, but his friends woke him up and said, "Don't you care that our boat is going to go down!" ...or something like that!

Esther: And what did Jesus do when he woke up?

Emmett: He looked at the wind and the waves and he said...

Esther: Wait...let me guess! Did Jesus say, "Peace. Be Still!"

Emmett: Good guess! Peace. Be still!

Esther: What happened then?

Emmett: The wind stopped. The waves stopped. Everything became still and calm. Then Jesus asked his friends, "Why are you afraid? Have faith!"

Esther: That's a great story. Sometimes life gets stormy.

Emmett: Especially if you're in a boat on a lake!

Esther: Yes ... but also when things get rough – maybe someone we know gets sick, or things don't turn out the way we want them to, or our best friend moves to another province, or Covid happens and we can't see our family and friends.

Emmett: Yeah...I guess that does feel like a storm...like things are going crazy and we don't know what will happen...

Esther: At times like that, I like to pray.

Emmett: Do you pray, "Wake up, Jesus!"

Esther: (chuckles) Something like that! I usually pray, "God be with me in this stormy time."

Emmett: And what does God say?

Esther: Peace! Be still!

Emmett: Sounds like God has been reading the stories about Jesus.

Esther: I think God was with Jesus during all the stormy times of his life.

Emmett: And did God make all the storms go away?

Esther: Not always, but God helped Jesus have peace.

Emmett: What does that mean?

Esther: It means that Jesus always knew that he was loved by God and that he would always be loved by God, and that no matter what happened in life, God was always with him, and he was always living in God's love, and so he never had to be afraid that anything could take him away from God.

Emmett: So, when Jesus said "Peace, be still" he may have been saying what he had heard God say?

Esther: Yes. Maybe Jesus was telling his friends that they could find peace within themselves, even when they were surrounded by a storm. Maybe Jesus was saying that they should have faith that no matter how crazy and difficult life might seem... they were always loved by God.

Emmett: Wow! So this great story is a story about God loving us...and always being with us?

Esther: It's a story about God's love, and about us being able to know the calm of being loved by God, even when life is tough?

Emmett: God loves us...so, "Peace. Be still!" Amen.

Emmett: Amen!