

## IN TOUCH

### THE PERFECT STORM

A few years back Tom Hanks starred in a movie called The Perfect Storm. I never saw it only a few previews via T.V. advertisement. Tom Hanks does not act in bad movies and based on the previews I saw it looked pretty good to me. The plot of the movie is about how Tom Hanks and his fishing boat crew encounter “the mother of all storms” in the Atlantic Ocean, unfortunately the boat and all the crew do not survive the storm.

Some people today feel like they are in the perfect storm, COVID, job loss, (or fear of it), educating children at home, working from home, the direction of our country, a number of factors give reason for feeling like we are in a really bad storm right now. Fear among people has not been measured at such a high level in years. Each sunrise seems to bring fresh reasons for fear. Fear leads us into prison, slams the door shut, and appears to throw away the key.

I have good news: the key to get out of the prison of fear is found in Psalm 34:6: “I sought the Lord and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.” If we want to be free of fear we must first and foremost seek the Lord. This is what Paul did in a similar situation not in a movie but in real life (though the movie was about a real event in 1991). In Acts 27 Paul is on board a ship bound for Rome. At one point of the journey they are hit by a perfect storm and it appears that all will be lost. Fear is as deep as the sea that they are sailing on. Paul gets the attention of the crew and manages to convince them to take several steps to save the ship and all the crew. First and foremost he tells them, in essence, “God is in control, listen to me and we will make it.” They made it safely to shore and the key is: Paul had to demonstrate no fear – God’s in control.

Remember this: God got Paul and His companions through a terrible storm and if you are in a terrible storm right now or in the future – fear not, seek God and let Him deliver you from the storm.

In Christ’s Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayers: John Brokloff, the death of his wife, Frank Hammond