

## Trusting God in a Storm

*Mark 4:35-41*

### Introduction

The disciples were in a storm. This storm was a crisis for them – an unexpected trial that interrupted their journey. This unforeseen difficulty left the disciples feeling fear, insecurity, and confusion. They were in an unstable and uncomfortable situation and didn't understand how Jesus could sleep while they faced peril.

Does this sound familiar? Have you ever been in a situation where God seems to be asleep while you wonder if you will make it? You are not alone. There are times in the life of a believer that the winds and the waves rage, and it seems as if God doesn't care. It is not uncommon for Christians that trust and believe in God to face times of crisis where they question Him and struggle with the perception that God is silent or not active in their circumstances.

The disciples cried out to Jesus and asked Him to help. When Jesus intervened and commanded the winds and the waves to be still, He then turned to the disciples and corrected them. He said they had no faith because they didn't believe Him when he originally stated that they were going to the other side. He pointed out that the disciples had let their circumstances cause them to doubt His Word.

### Getting Started

1. We've just experienced a rainy weekend in the DFW area. Most people don't like to be out and about during this kind of weather. How did you adjust your plans as a result of the weather report?
2. Do you think that Christians today expect their spiritual walk to include storms? Why or why not? In what ways might people adjust their plans to avoid difficult situations?

### Let's Get Personal

1. Have you ever been in a situation where God seems to be asleep while you wonder if you will make it?
2. Have you seen God differently because of the experience? Share how you gained a bigger view of God as a result.
3. Jesus scolded the disciples for not believing in His Word. In the same way, we must appeal to the Word when we need reassurance in the midst of the storm. Do you appeal to the Word when times are hard? If so, how do you know where to go? If not, what do you do instead?
4. The disciples woke Jesus up. While they may not have had enough faith to believe His Word, they did have enough faith to confront Him about His silence. Do you appeal to God when you are in desperate circumstances? Or do you tend to complain or grumble instead?

### Take the Next Step

1. We should appeal to God's Word in a storm. Do you have particular passages that have been meaningful to you? Share with your group. Someone in your circle might need suggestions of Bible verses to hold on to when the going gets tough.
2. What will you do this week to confront God about circumstances that have you feeling fearful, insecure, or confused?
3. Do you have anyone in your life who can help steer you to helpful passages of Scripture when you are facing tough times? Will you commit to reach out for encouragement through the Word during your storm?
4. Would you like to read and reflect beyond today's text? Read John 16:33

### Renew Your Mind

*"You of little faith, why did you doubt?" Matthew 14:31*

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