

A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of September 7, 2025

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Mark 4:35-41 Why Are You So Afraid?

³⁵On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. ³⁷And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

- Summarize this story in your own words. What is happening, and who is there?
- What various things contribute to the fear of the disciples?
- The disciples are filled with great fear, and ask "Who then is this?" What kinds of things might they be wondering? (41) Read Psalm 89:8-9 for more insight.
- What Old Testament accounts involving water might come to mind for the disciples after Jesus calms the storm?
- Jesus knows we have no peace. His question to the disciples was not to discover what was going on in their hearts,, but to mercifully expose it. What happens to you when you have no peace? What goes on in your soul?

- Jesus knows we do not grow in peace without turmoil. What question did the storm inspire for the disciples (38)? Trouble opens us up to God's grace, and storms develop faith, hope, love, patience, humility, peace and self-control in us like nothing else can. Share a time when God met you in you need, and was glorified in your trouble.
- Peace comes to us from outside ourselves. There is no peace in that boat except Jesus! From God, not Me. The fruit of peace is not a trait to be emulated but the faithful work of the Holy Spirit in the church. How do you need Jesus to give you peace this week?
 - Pray together in light of this week's passage.

Stories from the Church: Mike Glasgow

Throughout this current sermon series on Questions Jesus Asked, brothers and sisters from our church will share the ways Jesus is faithfully at work in His church through many ministries at WEPC.

Two monumental, extraordinary events shaped my walk with Jesus, three when you count his offer of salvation and the forgiveness of my numerous sins. In 2009, after my first marriage ended in divorce, I was really, truly lost, profoundly broken. The first event was an invitation from a believing brother at my church in Williamsburg to attend a small group. I had never heard of this concept, but said yes because, hey, why notthere was only one way: up.

I started attending weekly Small Group meetings, and those seven married couples loved on me profoundly, invited me to meals, Bible study, friendship-- exactly what I needed, and Jesus knew this. It was at small group that I learned much about how faith in the Lord really works in your heart and life. These beloved friends showed me love, hope, and truth. Later when I married Cindi, they took her in as well into the small group family. The key verse was Proverbs 3:5, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."

The second event happened on the heels of the first event: one of my Michigan customers invited me to a men's retreat in Ohio the following April. "Want to come to Men's Retreat?", Bob said. I said sure, wanting to make another friend, but again I had no mental picture of what to expect. At the retreat, nearly 100 likeminded believing men surrounded me, engaged me, asked questions, provided some answers, and ultimately, thank the Lord, it changed me. I loved when we sang together great hymns of praise, and found that Bible study was the path to knowing God more fully, and Jesus's work on the Cross. A key verse at the Retreat was Matthew 6:33, "But seek first His kingdom, and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you."

Some of you know how passionate and energetic I am for Men's Ministry, 2nd Monday Men's Fellowship, and small groups here at West End Pres. Now you know some of the reasons why. THE Reason. When Jesus changes your life, it's just irresistible. He changed me, and it's impossible to me not to get out there, invite brothers to Men's Retreat, get involved in small group, and encourage everyone to trust and obey our Lord (one of my favorite hymns). When I'm here, I'm with the family of God. A final verse-- II Timothy 2:2 "The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." Thank you.

To hear sermons and access past study guides visit www.wepc.org/resources/sermons-media-study-guide

Hear sermon audio for West End Presbyterian Church RVA on Spotify and Apple Podcasts

Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org

