



Read the Gospel

Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.

Scripture passage: John 6:15-21

Storms that we face can be challenging, frustrating, and anxiety-producing life events. Storms threaten us, often coming suddenly with no warning. The storms we face in life engulf and overwhelm, and there are many reading this who are "storm weary" today. The truth is we are all either going through a storm, coming out of a storm, or heading into a storm. Storms are simply unavoidable.

But God has a plan and a purpose for our storms. Because He is in authority over all things at all times, He can, and will, meet us in the storms of life and provide peace for us in their very midst. If we will take our focus off of the eye of the storm and gaze into the fullness of the grace and glory of Christ, and if we will choose to believe in Him rather than place our faith in the conditions that surround us, we will find the strength to endure and the peace our weary hearts are longing for.

Pray for the Work of the Gospel

Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise** God for His power and authority over the storms and struggles of life.
- **Repent** from any lack of trust or belief you may have in God during difficult circumstances.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to help you look to Jesus in the storms of life and trust Him.
- **Yield** to the Holy Spirit as He leads you through the storm.

Engage in the Gospel

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion with your Life Group.

Read John 6:15-21 along with Matthew 14:22-27 and Mark 6:45-52

- According to the Matthew and Mark passages, why had the disciples gotten into the boat without Jesus?
- Knowing they would row into a storm, Jesus puts them in the boat to cross the sea. What does this tell you about Jesus and His intentionality to lead us into storms at times?
- Scripture tells us that the sea became rough because of a strong wind. Read Job 9:7-8 and Psalm 107:23-31 from the Old Testament that describe the power and authority of God over the elements. How do these verses and those in the Gospels we've just read give further testimony to the validity of Jesus' testimony to be one with the Father?
- Jesus meets His disciples in the storm. The waves and wind are against them, but He walks on water toward them completely unbothered by the storm. What lessons can you learn from this and how can you apply these truths to the storm you may be facing today?



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- Pastor McKinley noted five principles for finding P-E-A-C-E in the storms of life that will help anchor your soul when you are rowing against the wind. Discuss these principles with your group.
 - God’s PURPOSE is bigger than our storms. His purpose can be corrective or perfective. (Psalm 107:25-30)
 - God ENLARGES our faith through the storms. How have you seen God grow your faith muscles as you endure hardship? (See 2 Corinthians 4:16-18)
 - God’s AUTHORITY is not threatened by the storm. Jesus demonstrated His authority over the storm when He walked on water to them. In essence He was saying, “Everything that is over your head is already under My feet.” (See 1 Corinthians 15:27, Ephesians 1:22, Hebrews 2:7-8, John 6:20 – “ego eimi” = I AM)
 - God’s CARE is constant in the storm. Even when Jesus was up on the mountain praying (Mark 6:48), His eye was on them, and He came to them. How have you seen God take care of you in your storm? What promises from Scripture do you find regarding Jesus’ constant care for His children at all times and in all circumstances?
 - God’s name is EXALTED above the storm. Matthew 14:32 says that the winds ceased when Jesus got into the boat. What did the disciples do in Matthew 14:33? What do you do when you meet Jesus in the storm?
- Fear is a natural response when weathering a storm. What do these verses remind you about fear? Will you allow His love to cover your fear as you dwell in the peace of His presence?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Genesis 15:1 ○ Deuteronomy 3:22, 31:6, 8 ○ Psalm 111:10 ○ Isaiah 41:10 ○ Luke 12:7 ○ John 12:15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Romans 8:15 ○ Philippians 4:6-7 ○ 2 Timothy 1:7 ○ Hebrews 13:6 ○ 1 John 4:18
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- Read Psalm 91 and allow these words to be a refuge for your soul and fill you with the peace of God in your storm. Share these words of refuge and peace with someone going through a storm this week.

Live the Gospel

These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader’s responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately a disciple-maker.

- Who does God want you to share with this week? Identify someone you know who is going through a storm. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the opportunity to share what you’ve learned about storms.
- Be prepared to share your “storm story” with them and testify to God’s P-E-A-C-E in the midst of your struggle.

Joshua Code memory verse:

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. – Romans 5:8



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