



## Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

### *“Storms and Calms”*

#### **Points from Sunday’s Message**

1. The storms that terrify us are subject to Christ, who promised to see us through.
2. Sometimes, the storms we face are meant to produce panic and to hinder God’s purpose.
3. Jesus crosses over and confronts darkness to come for those who could never come to Him.
4. The fear of Christ can lead to reverence... or to rejection.

#### **Key Verse:**

*“But He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ And they were afraid, and marveled, saying to one another, ‘Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!’”*

— Luke 8:25

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. **“Let us cross over to the other side.”**

**Questions:** Jesus’ invitation to cross the lake was both a **statement of purpose** and a **promise**—yet it still included a storm. Why do you think we often assume that following Jesus should mean fewer storms, not harder ones? How does this verse reshape the way we think about God’s promises when circumstances feel chaotic?

**Further Reading:** Psalm 107:23–30, Isaiah 43:2, John 16:33

2. **“Where is your faith?”**

**Questions:** When the disciples wake Jesus, He calms the storm—but then He questions *them*, not the wind. What do you think Jesus is really asking when He says, “Where is your faith?” In storms, what are you most tempted to trust instead of Christ (your skills, control, avoidance, panic)?

**Further Reading:** Proverbs 3:5–6, Hebrews 11:1, 2 Corinthians 5:7

### 3. Jesus slept—and still had authority

**Questions:** This story shows both Jesus' **humanity** (He slept) and **divinity** (He commanded creation). What does it communicate to you personally that Jesus was at peace while the storm raged? How does understanding Jesus as *fully God and fully man* help you trust Him more deeply?

**Further Reading:** Colossians 1:15–17, Hebrews 4:14–16, Psalm 121:3–4

### 4. When storms are meant to stop obedience

**Questions:** Pastor Miles pointed out that this storm may have been **resistance**, meant to keep Jesus from reaching the demon-possessed man on the other side. Can you think of a time when fear or difficulty almost kept you from obeying God? How do we discern when a storm is simply part of a broken world versus an attempt to derail God's work?

**Further Reading:** Ephesians 6:12, 1 Peter 5:8–9, Acts 14:21–22

### 5. Fear that leads to worship—or rejection

**Questions:** Both the disciples and the people of Gadara respond with fear to Jesus' power—but only one group moves toward Him. Why do you think the people of Gadara asked Jesus to leave instead of celebrating the man's deliverance? What does this reveal about how people respond when Jesus disrupts comfort or control?

**Further Reading:** Luke 5:8–11, John 3:19–21, Proverbs 9:10

### 6. *Pray. Trust. Obey.* (Practical Application)

**Question:** The message closed with a simple but challenging framework for storms: **PTO—Pray, Trust, Obey**. Which of these three is hardest for you in a storm—and why? What is one **specific, practical step** you can take this week to live out PTO in your current situation?

**Group Challenge:** Who is one person in your life right now that may need the light of Christ through you?

**Further Reading:** Philippians 4:6–7, James 1:2–4, Romans 8:28

*Use these blended questions for deeper personal reflection, prayer, or small group discussion.*