

SESSION SIX JESUS CALMS THE STORM

YES&NO

- 1. If someone put their spit on me, I would be very uncomfortable.
- 2. I become embarrassed fairly easily in public when I become the focus of attention.
- 3. Things typically have to get worse before they get better.
- 4. Diseases are the product of sin.
- 5. God does not make things worse in order to make them better.

DIG DEEP

GOD FALLS ASLEEP SOMETIMES:

- READ Mark 4:35-38.
 - » This story opens with Jesus falling asleep during a dangerous storm. Does God take a break from our troubles from time to time?
- » Are there situations where God does not intervene because He is not concerned?
 - ∞ The disciples rebuke Jesus for his apparent lack of concern. They say, "Don't you care if we drown?" (v. 38) The present tense ἀπολλύμεθα (apollometha), "we are in the act of perishing," admits all of the disciples' groveling helplessness in the imminent catastrophe, while they ask, "Don't you care?"
 - What does this say about the assumptions of the disciples?
 - Could Christ have sunk with his disciples on that day?
 - Professional fishermen turn to a professional carpenter to find a solution to their sailing problems. What other assumptions does this reveal in the hearts of the disciples?

JESUS REBUKES TWICE:

- READ Mark 4:39.
- » The first words out of Jesus' mouth are not directed to his disciples, but to the wind and the waves.
 - -σιώπα (siopa), "be silent and keep so right along!"
 - -πεφίμωσο (pephimoso), "Put the muzzle on and keep it on!"





JESUS REBUKES TWICE (continued):

» These silencing commands were used just three chapters earlier in Mark 1:25 when Jesus cast an evil spirit out of a man in church. What might be some connections to this storm?

• READ Mark 4:40.

- » Jesus now rebukes his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"
 - What do you think Jesus meant here?
 - When most people join a church and "get into the boat," do they expect a life of *calm* or a life of *chaos*? What does Jesus really offer? Does he offer a way to speak calm into the chaos?
 - On other occasions, Jesus says that his disciples can do the miracles that he is doing, and that they can do even greater things. Do you think Jesus wanted them to *endure* the storm or *end* the storm?

A NEW FEAR:

• READ Mark 4:41.

- » The disciples were not afraid of Jesus, did not run from him, but now looked upon him with the greatest awe. The words here are the same you would use when you are in the company of a famous celebrity.
- Looking back at the story In Mark 1 of the man with the evil spirit, the church members had a parallel response in verse 27 when they said, "Who is this man...who gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him."
 - » What does this question, uttered by the disciples, reveal about their true beliefs about the person of Jesus?
 - ∞ Jesus has been known to sail right into the types of storms that make professional sailors cry. But remember, as surely as Christ could not have sunk with his disciples on that day, he will certainly not let you sink on this day.

EMBRACE LIFE

TALK WITH GOD THIS WEEK ABOUT THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1. Am I willing to get into the boat with Jesus whether it will be a calm or chaotic ride?
- 2. What storms have caused me to question God's care and concern for my life?
- 3. What new thing does God need me to know about His character this week?