

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Weathering the Storm

Week of March 15, 2020

Week 1: Storm Sleeper (Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Text: Mark 4:35-40

This difficult and unprecedented season demanded a new sermon series. In this series we will look at three moments from the life of Jesus that involved Peter's boat on the Sea of Galilee. The first of these moments was when Jesus taught us how to become a "Storm Sleeper."

Kicking it off: How many times a day have you been washing your hands lately?

Discussion:

1. See if your group can come up with an extensive list of difficulties or losses that the Coronavirus has caused.
2. Reread *Mark 4:37* A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped.

What makes this situation unusually terrifying?

3. Reread *Mark 4:37-38a* Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion.

You might have to be in a storm, but a storm doesn't have to be in you. Do you know anyone who seems to have this unique ability to stay relaxed in the midst of an awful trial? If so, tell about them.

4. Reread *Mark 4:38b* The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

Why does hardship often cause people to doubt the Lord's love for them?

5. How could you reassure someone who is suffering of God's love for them?

6. Reread *Mark 4:39* Jesus got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

How does this verse help with your own hardship?

7. Reread *Mark 4:40* He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

What is the correlation between fear and faith?

8. How might God bring good out of this difficult season? (*Romans 8:28*)

Wrapping It Up: Spend some time praying for the people of planet Earth. Ask the Lord to use this global trial for His glory.