

# INTRODUCING JESUS

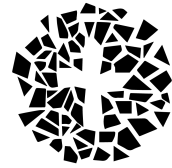
LUKE 8:22-25

Community Group Study Guide  
Week of February 24, 2019

This week we looked at a famous story from Luke 8:22-25 where Jesus calms a violent storm. Jesus' miraculous command of creation displays his sovereign power as its creator, but also teaches us some vital lessons about what it means to be his Disciples. As followers of Jesus, we can expect that Jesus will at times lead us into danger, but we can also trust that when he does he will use those "storms" to sanctify us and strengthen our faith.

Pastor Jan pointed out that we see similar themes in Psalm 23. The same Shepherd who makes us lie down in green pastures, and leads us beside still waters, sometimes walks us through the valley of the shadow of death. Sometime God's grace delivers us from danger, and sometimes it intentionally bring us through the danger. This is a comfort in times of calamity. No matter how bad our circumstances are, God is in control, he is with us, He is for us, He has a plan, and he has promised to use all things for our good.

When we fear we are perishing and begin to doubt God's power of love, we should ponder the same question that Jesus asked his disciples. "Where is your faith?" The powerful storms of life can be terrifying, but their power pales in comparison to the one bringing us through them. If we walk in the fear of the Lord, then there is nothing else that we need to fear. Throughout scripture we see God using bad things for good purposes. The ultimate example of this is in Jesus Christ. The crucifixion was the worst and most violent storm of human history, and yet God used it to accomplish the most good and beautiful thing that has ever happened. If he is willing and able to do that, then we can trust that He is good enough and great enough to use the storms of our life for our good and for His glory.



**MOSAIC BOSTON**  
LOVE. JESUS. SIMPLE.

## DISCUSSION GOALS

### Head

To understand that God allows and sometimes causes storms, and is able to use them for our good and his glory.

### Heart

To trust that Jesus is a good and a Great God, and to fear Him and nothing else.

### Hands

To examine our circumstance through the eyes of faith, and not through the fears of our flesh.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Membership or Baptism:

Contact  
[admin@mosaicboston.com](mailto:admin@mosaicboston.com) to sign up for our next membership class or learn more about baptism.

### Mosaic JP:

Please keep Mosaic JP and other faithful Boston church plants in your prayers. If your CG would like to serve Mosaic JP together on a Sunday please contact [andy@mosaicboston.com](mailto:andy@mosaicboston.com).

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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### ICE BREAKER

What is the largest body of water you've been on in a boat?

#### Read Luke 8:122-25

- What initially stood out to you as we read this passage?
- How do we see both Jesus' humanity, and His divinity in this passage? Why should it matter to us that He is both (fully God and Fully man)?
- Why does Jesus question the disciples' faith when they run to Him in fear?
- After Jesus calms the storm, the disciples were still afraid, but now Luke says "they were afraid, and they marveled" at Jesus. What does it mean to fear God? In what ways is the disciples' fear of Jesus similar to their fear of the storm, in what ways is it different?

#### Read Psalm 23

- Just as Jesus led his disciples into the storm, here we see the Shepherd lead his sheep through the valley of the shadow of death. How should this change the way Christians view death, danger and the figurative storms of life?
- After going through the valley, the psalmist arrived at a table where "his cup overflows." In other words, God has blessed him to the extent that it benefits those around him. How can the storms or valleys we've gone through enable us to be a blessing to others?
- Often times storms cause us to doubt. When you face storms in life, is it more tempting to doubt God's greatness (that he has the power to do what is right), or His Goodness (that he has the desire to do what is right)?
- How can we fight our doubt with faith? What do you do, or where do you turn when you're facing doubts?
- The greatest storm ever faced was that of Jesus on the Cross. Why do we need the cross of Christ in order to have a proper perspective on the storms we face?