

Group Questions – Matthew 14:22-23 – Survive or Thrive

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

What is the worst WEATHER storm you have ever been through?

What were your feelings as you went through that storm?

How is this COVID-19 situation similar to going through a storm?

DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

Read – Matthew 14:22-24

Why do you think Jesus MADE His disciples get in the boat and go without Him?

***Have you ever felt like God MADE you do something you didn't want to do?
Why do you think God did that to you?***

Why do you think God might be MAKING you go through this situation?

Read – Matthew 14:25-26

Pastor Nate shared how the disciples had been rowing in this storm for 7-8 hours, sleep deprived, physically weary, and now they think they see a GHOST!

Can you share a time in your life when Jesus showed up, but you thought it was something bad, not something good?

Why do you think it's important for us to remember that Jesus showing up in our life, might create fear... at first?

Read – Matthew 14:27

Share an example of how Jesus has shown up in the midst of your struggles.

***What were the 3 things Jesus said to the disciples when He showed up?
(1. "Be of good cheer." 2. "It is I." 3. "Do not be afraid.")***

How does the 2nd statement make it possible to do the 1st and 3rd?

Read – Isaiah 41:10

God tells us in His word, the same thing Jesus told His disciples

What kind of effect is God wanting that understanding to have on us?

What stops us from “being of good cheer” and “not being afraid”?

Read – Matthew 14:28

Pastor Nate shared... Peter realizes that this storm is not just something that is HAPPENING TO HIM. It's not just something that he needs to GET THROUGH. Peter realizes that this is an opportunity to see GOD'S POWER AT WORK in HIS LIFE!

How can we translate that same attitude to this COVID-19 situation?

Read – Matthew 14:29

Pastor Nate shared... Peter walked ON WATER... Peter is not just surviving the storm, he is RISING ABOVE IT... He's walking on water!

What are some ways God is calling you to RISE ABOVE this storm we are in?

Pastor Nate shared an example of a tea bag flying. But first, the tea bag needed to be emptied out, and set on fire!

How is our life like that tea bag?

How can FIERY TRIALS actually be a GOOD THING?

Close by praying for us all to... THRIVE during this storm.