



## May 17 Sermon Reflection and Reading Guide

### Key Points to reflect on from today's service: Mark 4:35-41

- We are moving into a section of Mark that will focus on Jesus' miracles and highlight His power over nature, the forces of darkness, sickness and death. Mark is showing us that Jesus is powerful to overcome the darkness and to rescue the world.
- Mark's Gospel is all about the identity of Jesus and this story is first and foremost about who Jesus is.
- It is Jesus who leads them into the storm. Sometimes following Jesus means that He will lead us into a storm.
- Jesus led them into the storm to test and grow their faith. The storm and the silence of Jesus provided a perfect environment to test and grow their faith.
- The disciples didn't primarily question Jesus' power but His love. Faith is not just trusting the sovereign power of God over circumstances. It is trusting the love of God that he will wield his power for your good.
- Jesus led them into the storm to show them His glory.
- Jesus often leads us into storms and he does so for two main reasons: to grow our faith and to show us Himself. Storms are never pleasant but God is doing far more in them than we realize.
- Jesus wields his awe inspiring power for His people. And we have something the disciples didn't have: the cross and the resurrection. Jesus loved us so much that He died for us and He defeated the grave. He can be trusted.
- Is your life surrendered to Jesus? Are you trusting Him in the storms of life? Perhaps you aren't in a storm but you should prepare for storms (cause they are coming at some point) by learning the character of God and the promises of God so you aren't undone by trials.

### Daily Bible Reading for this Week

5/18: John 8

5/19: John 9

5/20: John 10

5/21: John 11

5/22: John 12

**For Group Leaders and Group Discussion**

Use zoom to connect with group members. The first 40 meetings are free. There is a need to use this time wisely. So divide your time into three increments:

- Check in: ask each person to tell the group how they are doing and how the group can pray for them.
- Discuss sermon and reading: what has God been teaching you through His Word and the teaching from Sunday? How can you apply what you are reading? How are you sharing the love of Jesus with others or how can you share the love of Jesus with others this week?
- Read one of the chapters from this past week. From that passage ask: what does the text say (make as many observations as you can)? What does it mean? How can you/we apply it?