

Summary of Message:

We often speak about how Jesus helps us out during the 'storms' of our lives. But did you ever think about the One that sends those storms our way? Why would Jesus create a storm and then send His disciples into it? And... Why does He allow the wind to rise, and the waves to beat on your little boat and my little boat?

Questions for your Family Devotions or Grace Groups:

- 1. Review Mark 6:45-52. What was something the Lord used to speak to you personally in this message?
- 2. Why did Jesus 'make' the disciples get on the boat and leave He and the crowd? Why did Jesus go off alone to pray? What do you think the disciples might have been thinking when He did this?
- Read Psalm 107:23-28. Discuss the first point: He Creates Storms to Give Us New Direction. It was stated that "God cares more about our eternal state, than our present comfort". What does that mean in light of Mark 8:36?
- 4. Read Jonah 2:2-3. Discuss the second point: He Creates Storms to Give Us Necessary Correction. Pastor Michael used the "donut at The Filling Station" example to illustrate that Satan will always have a ship ready if you're wanting to run from God's perfect will. Have you ever seen this in your life?
- 5. In Acts 4:4 we see the early church had about 5,000 salvations and THEN persecution hit hard... much like after the 5,000 were fed in Mark 6 the storm hit. Discuss the fourth point: He Creates Storms to Nurture Perfection. How does it make you feel that God will allow a storm to perfect and prepare you for the future?
- 6. Bonus Question for those who want to dig really deep: Discuss what Mark6:52 is talking about and how it can relate to us today?