

Small Group Guide: Power Over Nature

January 3, 2026

Based on Mark 4:35-5:20

Key Scripture Passages

- Mark 4:35-41 - Mark 5:1-20 - Genesis 50 - Jonah 1 -
- Psalm 119:98-100, 130, 169

Key Takeaways

1. Joseph, God may take us on journeys we don't particularly like, but He has a purpose in taking us there—emotionally, spiritually, or physically.
2. Yeshua's calming of the storm reveals His divinity and connection to God the Father, demonstrating power that only God possesses (see Jonah).
3. Pay Attention and Use What You Hear: "With the measure you use, it will be measured to you; and more will be added to you" (Mark 4:24).

Discussion Questions

1. Joseph's brothers lived 17 years in unnecessary fear. What areas of your life might you be carrying unnecessary anxiety or fear about relationships, circumstances, or God's intentions toward you?
2. How does understanding that "what others meant for evil, God meant for good" change your perspective on difficult seasons you've walked through?
3. The disciples asked, "Don't you care that we are perishing?" Have you ever felt this way toward God? How did that season resolve, or what are you learning in it now?

4. Yeshua responded, "Why are you afraid? Even now you have no faith?" Why do you think He used the phrase "even now" after all they had witnessed?

5. The demon-possessed man immediately recognized Yeshua's authority, but the townspeople asked Him to leave. Why do you think people sometimes reject God's power even when they witness it?

6. The healed man wanted to follow Yeshua, but was told to "go home and tell them how much the Lord has done for you." What does this teach us about our calling to witness in our own communities?

7. Psalm 119 emphasizes the benefits of paying attention to, meditating on, and using God's Word. How can you practically increase your engagement with Scripture this week?

This Week's Challenge

Choose one of the following to practice this week:

Option 1: Identify Your Storm

Option 2: Pay Attention and Use What You Hear/Read from the Bible

Option 3: Trust Audit - Make a list of areas where you're struggling to trust God. For each item, ask: "Am I living in unnecessary fear like Joseph's brothers?"