

GROUP QUESTIONS: Parables with Pastor Mindy

1. What question do you wish people would ask you?
2. Take a minute to summarize with your group the main point of the message from Sunday and/or briefly share what stood out to you the most.
3. Pastor Mindy laid the context for Jesus walking on water. Describe what was happening at the time of this story (i.e. what was life like for Jesus and his disciples) How might it mirror some dynamics of our lives?
4. Discuss compassion as defined by Pema Chodron and quoted in the work of Brene Brown and Jared Byas - "Compassion is not a relationship between the healer and the wounded. It's a relationship between equals. Only when we know our own darkness well can we be present with the darkness of others. Compassion becomes real when we recognize our shared humanity."
5. How does or doesn't compassion show up in your life?
6. What does Jesus say to the disciples in the middle of the storm? It's repeated in both iterations of the story. (mt 14:27 and mk 6:50) Do you think God might have the same thing to say to you?
7. Pastor Mindy noted that the storm calmed when Jesus got into the boat. She asked us to consider - what might it look like to invite God, to invite Love, into our struggles? Might God bring calmness to our storms too, if we can open ourselves to God's presence with us at the center of our hardest struggles?