

FURTHER STUDY GUIDE

Faith in the Storm | Mark 4:35-41

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the end of a long day of teaching by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus tells His disciples to cross to the other side of the lake. The Sea of Galilee is well known for sudden and violent storms because of its geography. The lake sits about 700 feet below sea level and is surrounded by steep hills. Cool air rushing down through the valleys can collide with the warm air over the water, producing fierce storms with little warning.

Several of the disciples were experienced fishermen who knew these waters well, yet this storm terrifies even them. Mark emphasizes the severity of the situation to highlight the disciples' fear and their growing realization of who Jesus truly is.

This miracle is not just about calming a storm — it is a revelation of Jesus' authority. The One who rebukes the wind and commands the sea demonstrates divine power over creation. The passage ultimately confronts the disciples with a deeper question: **Do they trust Him?**

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Have you ever been in a situation where you felt completely out of control? How did you respond in that moment?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Storm Arises (4:35–37)

1. Why might this storm have been especially frightening for the disciples?

2. What does this moment reveal about how quickly circumstances can change in life?

3. How do people typically respond when situations feel out of control?

The Sleeping Savior (4:38)

4. Why do you think Jesus was able to sleep during the storm?

5. What does the disciples' question reveal about their fear?

6. Have you ever felt like God was silent or distant during a difficult season?

The Authority of Jesus (4:39)

7. What does this miracle reveal about Jesus' authority?

8. Why is it significant that Jesus rebukes the storm as if addressing a living force?

9. How does this moment echo Old Testament descriptions of God's power over the sea (Psalm 89:9; Psalm 107:29)?

The Real Issue: Faith (4:40–41)

10. Why does Jesus address their fear after calming the storm?

11. What is the connection between fear and faith in this passage?

12. Why do the disciples respond with even greater awe after the miracle?

PERSONAL DEVOTION

- What “storms” am I currently facing?
- Do my fears reveal a lack of trust in Jesus’ authority?
- Am I questioning God’s care when circumstances feel overwhelming?

Faith grows when we remember who is in the boat with us.

APPLICATION

Faith in the storm means:

- Trusting Jesus even when circumstances feel chaotic.
- Remembering His authority over what we cannot control.
- Bringing our fears honestly to Him.

Sometimes Jesus calms the storm. Sometimes He strengthens us in the storm. In both cases, His presence is our greatest assurance.

QUESTIONS | REFLECTIONS | OBSERVATIONS
