

# Luke

## See Jesus

### Jesus In the Storm

#### Luke 8:22-25; Mark 4:35-41

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / Sept. 19, 2021*

#### I. Don't Think that Jesus in Your Life Will Keep All the Storms Out of It

God's Word doesn't promise you'll never head into a storm again, but He promises that you'll never be alone in it. He often leads us into the storm; the storms of life are under His sovereign control and He uses them to accomplish His purposes in us, making us more like Him.

**Luke 8:22** "... He said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they set out..."

Don't let storms in your life be the only litmus test as to whether or not you think you're doing the will of God and following Jesus. You can be in the will of God and in the middle of a storm at the same time.

Instead of asking "Why is this happening to me?" and "What have I done to deserve this?" consider asking, "O, God, what do you want me to see about You and see about me in the midst of this storm? What do You want me to learn and how do You want me to grow?"

#### II. Don't Jump to Conclusions or Misinterpret the Storm You are In

**Mark 4:38** "...Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

They're not asking a question, they're making an ugly accusation. They've already concluded "If You cared about us, this would not be happening to us right now."

In their minds, Jesus being with them and loving them is incompatible with them being in the midst of a life-threatening storm.

If you start with the wrong premise that His presence with you and love for you would never allow you to go through a terrifying storm, then your conclusions about Him will all be very, very wrong.

Your own premise will fail you, but His promises will never fail.

**Hebrews 13:5-6** "...be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?'"

**Isaiah 43:1-3** "...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

“God is God. If He is God, He is worthy of my worship and my service. I will find rest nowhere but in His will, and that will is infinitely, immeasurably, unspeakably beyond my largest notion of what He is up to...God is the God of human history, and He is at work continuously, mysteriously, accomplishing His eternal purposes in us, through us, for us, and in spite of us...

For us widows the question as to why the men who had trusted God...should be allowed to be speared to death was not one that could be smoothly or finally answered in 1956, nor yet silenced in 1996. God did not answer Job’s questions either. Job was living in a mystery – the mystery of the sovereign purpose of God – and the questions that rose out of the depths of that mystery were answered only by a deeper mystery, that of God Himself.”

~ Elisabeth Elliot, *Through Gates of Splendor*

People who are closest to the action often have the worst perspective. Their understanding of what’s really going on can be totally flawed because they don’t see the big picture.

### III. Don’t Just Lay Back and Expect Your Faith to Be Automatic

Faith has to be activated in the moment, over and over and over again. The fact that you activated your faith in the last storm doesn’t mean that it’s automatically there for the new one. You can never just “set it and forget it.”

**Luke 8:25** “...Where is your faith?...”

Notice He doesn’t say “Why don’t you have faith?” He says, “Where is it? Get it out, activate it!”

You can see this faith activation moment in so many of the Psalms:

**Psalm 56:3-4** “Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), in God I have **put** my trust; I will not fear...”

**Psalm 143:8-9** “Let the morning bring me word of Your unfailing love, for I have **put** my trust in You. Show me the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul. Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD, for I hide myself in You.”

*[Additional Verses in New King James Version: Psalm 7:1; 11:1; 16:1; 25:20; 31:1; 71:1-3]*

### IV. Don’t Let the Storm You’re in Today Keep You from Seeing the Storm that Jesus Endured for You

All of our struggles and storms take place from a much better vantage point than the one Jesus’ disciples had because all of our struggles and storms take place on the other side of the cross!

The storms of this life pale in comparison to the storm of God’s wrath that was coming for every one of us because of our sin against a holy God that would have landed us in an eternal hell.

**Romans 5:8** “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

**See Romans 8:31-37**