



# CHRIST'S COMMISSION FELLOWSHIP

## Los Angeles

Dgroup Discussion Guide  
December 14, 2014

### Jesus in the Boat (God is Omnipresent)

Word:

**Mark 4:35-41**

***On that day, when evening came, He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was; and other boats were with Him. And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. Jesus Himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Hush, be still." And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm. And He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They became very much afraid and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"***

Discuss:                   Have you come across this story before? What is your insight on this story?  
Do you have any storms in your life? What are the storms that scare you the most?

#### Storms in Life

- No one is exempted from having storms in our lives. Storms may be financial, physical, emotional, relational or spiritual. But storms in life are our reality and inevitable. . . and no one is exempted.
- Three sources of storms in life:
  1. A consequence of sin
  2. A consequence of wrong decisions
  3. God's sovereignty

The apostles' experience of the storm on the lake is an example of God's sovereignty. In that there are times that God allows trials to come into our lives to mold us and to transform us. Jesus had just taught them about the kingdom of God and about faith. And this storm was their test of faith.

- The most common response is fear. Fear of the unknown. Fear of failure.
- *What are you most afraid of?*

#### Our response

- While the storm was going on, Jesus was fast asleep in the boat. The disciples did everything they could to stabilize the boat and then hastened to wake Him.
- There are times when we are experiencing storms in our life, we feel as if God is "asleep", as if He is not listening, as if your prayers are not reaching Him. . . and you ask yourself "Where is God in this storm? Doesn't God care?"
- *Have you ever felt this way?*

- God is not interested in our comfort but rather He is in the business of changing us, transforming us. God allows these storms in our lives because it is part of His plan to create in us His masterpieces.
- As Christians, we should find comfort in the knowledge that Jesus is with us in the boat. This is assurance enough that whatever we are going through Jesus is there to guide us and comfort us. **1 Peter 5:7** says ***Since God care for you, Let Him carry all your burdens.*** Jesus tells us to give our worries and burdens on Him. He wants to be in charge of all these, our job is to trust Him and depend on Him. When Jesus carried the cross to bear our sins, He also took it upon Himself to carry our burdens as well.
- Our response as children of God, as followers of Jesus should be: ***Psalm 118:6 God's now at my side and I'm not afraid; who would dare lay a hand on me?*** Further God Himself tells us in Jeremiah 23:24 ***Am I a God anyone can hide from? Do I not see what happens in secret? Am I not everywhere, filling heaven and earth?*** And in ***Isaiah 41:10 Fear not I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*** These are God's promises that we can hold on to. These are promises that we can claim.
- But before we can claim these promises, we have to know the God who made these promises.
- *How much do you know God? Have you spent time trying to get to know Him? How is your relationship with God?*
- *Have you ever been in a situation where you have been torn between trusting God and trying to do things on our own?*
- *Do you continue to struggle when it comes to depending on God to take control of your life?*

Works:

A. Journaling Tasks:

*Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with your wherever you go.*

How does this verse speak to you?

B. Growing to be More Like Jesus

Fill out the table.

<p>Make a list of the storms that you are going through at this time of your life. Storms can range from something you worry about to a major crisis in your life.</p> <p>1. 2. 3.</p>	<p>God's promises to you in Psalm 118:6; Jeremiah 23:24; Isaiah 41:10 and Joshua 1:9</p> <p>What are God's specific messages to you for each problem you have?</p>	<p>How is each experience teaching you to be more like Christ? Or What Christ-like trait is God molding in you?</p>
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