

# Response Guide: “Miracles that Bring Peace”

For week of 3/22/20

## Scripture:

### Jesus Calms the Storm | Luke 8 (NIV)

**22** One day Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side of the lake.” So they got into a boat and set out. **23** As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. **24** The disciples went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we’re going to drown!” He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. **25** “Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.”

## Context/Background

Even when a storm was raging outside the boat, Jesus was sleeping. His disciples were afraid, and thought that he was being passive. Sometimes we make the same assumptions about God. We believe that because He is not moving in a certain timeframe that he is apathetic towards the storm we find ourselves in. The truth is that God doesn’t operate in apathy, He operates in *confidence*. He has the ability to sleep in the middle of a storm because he knows the exact right time to act. To operate in God’s confidence means we must first surrender *control*.

## Questions for Discussion:

1.) How can you relate to the disciples in the story? What is currently producing fear and anxiety in your life? What are you waiting on God for?

2.) Jesus actively *rebukes* the storm, and commands it to stop. In our lives, Jesus will actually challenge many of the mindsets *around* us when we face a struggle (cultural expectations, standards, fears).

In this season of your life, what outside influences in your life might Jesus be challenging? What things are influencing how you deal with your struggles that Jesus might want to silence?

3.) After he calms the storm, Jesus asks the disciples “where is your faith?” He did this not to shame them, but to call them to a greater level of dependency on Him. In the middle of our struggles, Jesus will challenge mindsets and habits *within* us.

What might Jesus be challenging *you* in as you weather a storm? How is this calling you to surrender control and live in greater dependency on Him?

## Prayer:

Spend some time praying for Jesus to do exactly what He did in this scripture passage in your life. Pray first for him to silence the unhealthy and fearful influences that *surround* you. Then, ask Him to reveal to you the mindsets of control and fear *inside* you that he desires to free you from. Finally, pray that God would give you strength and trust to live in greater dependency on Him.