



# GOING DEEPER

## Overall: Creation Responds to Jesus Do You?



Discussion Questions, before we begin, read from the book of Mark, Chapter 4; verses 35-41

**What is the worst storm you've ever been through?**

**How did the disciples react to this storm? And what did many of them do for a living?** So how strong can we surmise this storm was? (These seaworthy fishermen were accustomed to storms on the Sea of Galilee and this one must have been fierce for them to fear for their lives.)

**Are you ever annoyed when it looks like God is sleeping and ignoring the situation that has "swamped" you and threatens to drown you?**

**Why do you think the disciples wake Jesus up?  
Did they want Him to calm the storm or to take cover?**

**Why are the disciples still "terrified" even after Jesus calms the storm?** This fear was not produced by the storm, but by the calm. The sudden storm and sudden stillness caused brain overload. They were in fearful awe of the One who possessed authority to rebuke both the waves and themselves.

**What did the disciples ask each other in verse 41?** "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" Share with your group of a time God blew away your concept of Him by a display of His power.

**Someone read verse 40 for us. After their brush with death, Jesus doesn't comfort, but rather scolds His disciples.**

**Why is He so hard on them?**

**Is there evidence in the passage that Jesus meant to enter this storm as a test of the disciples' faith?** Hint, verse 37. Jesus suggested the boat trip Himself, and promptly went to sleep. The application to our lives is that even when Jesus LEADS us "through the valley of the shadow of death", we should fear no evil, for HE IS WITH US. We too can rest in faith during the storm. Our boat isn't going down, because Jesus is on board.

**How would they have responded if they had had faith?**

**God is in just as much control while the water is raging as He is when it becomes still.**

Sinclair Ferguson says this, "There is an awful sense of being forsaken by God when you know you are on the cross." When we are walking through the most difficult things, when it seems as we as if we are on the brink of death, it seems like God has left us. That's why we ask the questions that we ask. It's why we have the struggles and the fears that we have when the storm was raging. These disciples are really faced with the difficulty of life and they have to ask themselves what is more powerful, this storm or Jesus?

**Final Thoughts This Week on this Passage:**

**In what areas of your life are you tempted to respond with fear rather than faith?**

As we pray, consider how you will react when you are next tempted with those fears. Let's ask Jesus to give us His rest of faith, and let's worship Him who commands all manner of winds and waves.

What is God inviting you into through this passage? What do you feel like God has been saying to you through this scripture and this week's message?

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

**Notes and Reflections:**