

LIFELINES IN STORMY TIMES: Jesus Offers Us Calm in the Storm

LUKE 8:22-25

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #LifeLines

Disciples Can't Avoid External Storms, but Jesus Offers Internal Strength.

1. Expect the **Shock** of the Storm (22-24a).
2. Discern the **Sovereignty** over the Storm (22-25).
3. Receive the **Strengthening** through the Storm (22, 24-25).

Luke 8:22–25

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. ²³As 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. ²⁴The 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."

(ESV)

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you often find yourself shocked by the disasters and trials of life? What new discipline or habit could make you more expectant and unshakable when the next trial comes? How does the person of Christ calm our fears?
2. How does the sovereignty of Christ over all things bring you comfort in the storm? Why are explanations like “It was the devil, not the Lord, who did this” insufficient for our trials?
3. How does the closeness of Christ challenge our fears? How does it reassure us that Christ suffered for us?

Quote for the Week. . . by JC Ryle

“How would the great work of sanctification go on in a man if he had no trial? Trouble is often the only fire that will burn away the dross that clings to our hearts. Trouble is the pruning-knife which the great Husbandman employs in order to make us fruitful in good works. The harvest of the Lord’s field is seldom ripened by sunshine only. It must go through its days of wind, and rain, and storm.”

JC Ryle, *Holiness*, Moody Publishers, copyright 2010, p. 196.

