Bible Study Questions

Ruler of All Nature - Mark 4:35-41

Focus

The identity of Jesus as the Lord God is further revealed in a powerful way as He calms a raging storm, thereby challenging His disciples about the nature of their faith in Him. Will they believe that He loves them and is in control of the storms, or will they live in fear? And what will it be for us: faith or fear?

Read

Mark 4:35-41

Listen

CCNYC teaching on Mark 4 which can be found on our website

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

- 1. Verse 35 opens with the words, *On that day...* review what happened *on that day* and put this passage in context.
- 2. What do you think Mark means by saying in verse 36 that the disciples took Jesus *just as he was*. What do you think the disciples understood about Jesus at this point?
- 3. What do you make of the fact that Jesus was sleeping during the storm?
- 4. Based on Jesus' response to them in verse 40, how should the disciples have responded in the midst of this storm?
- 5. What does the calming of the storm reveal about who Jesus is?
- 6. Why do you think the disciples are more terrified after the storm than before? In what ways might it be both comforting and terrifying to be in Jesus' presence?

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Closing Reflection and Application

- 7. If you could ask God one question, what would it be?
- 8. Have you ever found yourself in a difficult situation and responding the way the disciples did in verse 38? What was the situation?
- 9. How does Jesus' response to the disciples in verse 40 undercut the false premise of their question in verse 38?
- 10. How is it comforting to know that Jesus, in His sovereignty, led the disciples into this fierce storm?
- 11. Do you trust that Jesus is fully God and in control of the storms? If not, why not? If so, how is that helpful to you and how do you exhibit that kind of faith in difficult times?
- 12. Do you trust that Jesus loves you and cares for you even as He allows you to endure the storms of life? If not, why not? If so, how is that helpful to you and how do you exhibit that kind of faith in difficult times?
- 13. If Jesus has the power and greatness to still the storm with a word, does it seem reasonable to you to conclude that He's also powerful and great enough to have very good reasons that are beyond your comprehension for allowing you to endure the storms in the first place?