

**Trusting God Through Uncertainty, Part 1**  
**Luke 8:22-25**

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**Getting Started**

- ❖ It is easy to say we have faith when everything is going well in life but when storms come our faith is tested. When you experience a time of testing what is your typical response?
- ❖ Where do you look for answers?
- ❖ How confident in God are you during a storm?

**Digging Deeper**

- ❖ **Read Luke 8:22-25 and the parallel passage in Mark 4:35-41.**
  - What does this story tell us about Jesus in that he was asleep during the trip across the Sea of Galilee and during the severe storm?
  - What do you hear in the voices of the Disciples when they asked Jesus “Do you not care that we are drowning?”
  - What do you think they were asking of Jesus--- practical help (e.g., “help us bail water!”) or a miraculous intervention?
  - What would indicate they were really focused on practical help? Hint: Notice the wording of Jesus’ response in the Mark account.
  - Do you find the Disciple’s responses to the storm to be “normal” or did they “cross the line” in some way?
  - Envision a scenario where Jesus would not have said “Where is your faith?” but instead commended them for their response to the storm. What would the actions and responses of the Disciples have been to elicit that kind of commendation from Jesus?
  - Do you believe this event literally happened or is it a myth in your opinion?
  - Why do you think this story was included in the Bible? What is it teaching us about Jesus and about ourselves?
- ❖ **Read Isaiah 45 in its entirety.**
  - Survey the verses and note everything they say about God and about God’s sovereignty over difficult situations in our lives.
  - What do these verses teach us about God’s purposes behind life’s storms?
  - Does this passage reinforce randomness and chance or intentionality and goodness in how God interacts with us?
  - What’s your biggest takeaway from this chapter?
- ❖ In his message, Jerry stressed the redemptive purposes behind storms. First, they serve as physical object lessons to remind us of the horrific nature of sin. Discuss this concept, considering the Garden and Fall of man in your discussion. Secondly, they call us to repent and trust in our Lord. How can storms fulfill this purpose?

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❖ **Applying this passage to Our Lives:**

- Have you ever experienced the “purifying” effect of a life storm? Share what this looked like in your life and how it manifested itself.
- Jerry shared three ways we can see our faith applied and strengthened during a storm. Which of the following resonates the most with you?
  - Exercise faith in Jesus by dwelling on the storm He endured on your behalf.
  - Exercise faith in Jesus by confessing your uncertainty of the “why” but your confidence in the “who”.
  - Exercise faith in Jesus by seeking God’s Kingdom glory in your storm.

**Think About It!**

*It must have been a bit unnerving to them to feel so threatened only to look back and find Jesus oblivious to everything that was transpiring. Thus, their question. The writers of the story speak of Jesus awakening, speaking to the storm, and causing it to submit to His word. Instantly: stillness, calm, clear sky(?). And then this question addressed to the men in the boat: Where is your faith? In other words, we know what’s above the waterline in your lives-- fear. But what’s below? Answer: apparently very little in the way of resource. That’s the redeeming virtue of storms: they force open the doors of the soul, show what’s there. (Gordon MacDonald, The Life God Blesses)*

**Praying Together**

Pray for one another and the storms you are facing right now. Specifically pray that God would use these storms as opportunities to grow His Kingdom in us and in our world.

## WORSHIP RESOURCE

April 19, 2020 | Second Sunday of Easter

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### WORSHIP SONGS

#### OPEN UP THE HEAVENS

**Words & Music by James McDonald, Jason Ingram, Meredith Andrews, Stuart Garrard, Andi Rozier, 2012**

We've waited for this day, we're gathered in Your name,  
Calling out to You. Your glory like a fire awakening desire,  
Will burn our hearts with truth. You're the reason we're here;  
You're the reason we're singing.

*Open up the heavens, we want to see You. Open up the floodgates,  
a mighty river flowing from Your heart, filling every part of our praise.*

Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face,  
We're looking to the sky. Descending like a cloud,  
You're standing with us now, Lord unveil our eyes.

#### KING OF HEAVEN

**Words and Music by Paul Baloche and Jason Ingram, 2010**

Jesus, let your kingdom come here; let your will be done here  
in us. Jesus, there is no one greater. You alone are Savior;  
Show the world your love.

*King of heaven, come down; King of heaven, come now;  
Let your glory reign, shining like the day, King of heaven come.  
King of heaven, rise up; who can stand against us?  
You are strong to save, in your mighty name, King of heaven come.*

We are children of your mercy, rescued for your glory. We cry Jesus,  
set our hearts towards you; that every eye would see you lifted high.

King of heaven come. King of heaven come.

#### LIVING HOPE

**Words and Music by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham, 2017**

How great the chasm that lay between us,  
how high the mountain I could not climb.  
In desperation I turned to heaven and spoke Your name  
into the night. Then through the darkness Your loving kindness  
tore through the shadows of my soul. The work is finished,  
the end is written. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom  
such boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory  
to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spoken,  
I am forgiven. The King of kings calls me His own. Beautiful Savior,  
I'm Yours forever. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

*Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah!  
Death has lost its grip on me. You have broken every chain  
with salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope!*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise. Your buried body  
began to breathe. Out of the silence, the roaring Lion declared the  
grave has no claim on me. Jesus Yours is the victory.

## HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

**Words and Music by Ada Habershon (1861-1918)  
and Matthew Merker, 2013**

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast.  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast.  
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

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### DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 136; Exodus 14:5-22; 1 John 1:1-7; John 14:1-7  
MONDAY | Ps. 124; Exodus 14:21-31; 1 Peter 1:1-12; John 14:1-17  
TUESDAY | Ps. 146; Exodus 15:1-21; 1 Peter 1:13-25; John 14:18-31  
WEDNESDAY | Ps. 9; Ex. 15:22-16:10; 1 Peter 2:1-10; John 15:1-11  
THURSDAY | Ps. 68; Ex. 16:10-22; 1 Peter 2:11-3:12; John 15:12-27  
FRIDAY | Ps. 49; Exodus 16:23-36; 1 Peter 3:13-4:6; John 16:1-15  
SATURDAY | Ps. 92; Exodus 17:1-16; 1 Peter 4:7-19; John 16:16-33

### PRAYER OF ADORATION

Blessed are you,  
O God of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
in whom we receive the legacy of a living hope,  
born again not only from his death  
but also from his resurrection.  
May we who have received forgiveness of sins  
through the Holy Spirit live to set others free,  
until, at length, we enter the inheritance  
that is imperishable and unfading,  
where Christ lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit. Amen.



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COVENANTCREATIVE**