

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, May 25, 2008

Passage: Luke 8:22-25

Memory Passage: 1 Peter 5:7

TODAY: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:22-25.** Who told them to get into the boat? Did the storm come because of disobedience?
- (b) Does our faithfulness to the Lord guarantee protection from harm? Did John the Baptist's faithfulness protect him in Luke 7:18-20? Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-29. What are some of the ways Paul suffered because he was faithful?
- (c) What do 2 Timothy 3:12; Acts 14:22; and Acts 9:13-16 tell us about suffering and obedience?
- (d) Read Luke 6:22-23. Did Jesus tell the disciples they would suffer? What would encourage them in their suffering?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:22-25 and Hebrews 10:32-34. Talk about suffering and believers. Is it true that all believers will suffer? What are some reasons that we suffer? Is it because we have sinned and God is punishing us? Pray for someone who is experiencing suffering today. Ask God to show you how you can encourage him.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:23-24.** Describe the way the storm came upon the boat. What was the occupation of these disciples? How does this help us understand the severity of the storm?
- (b) In Mark 4:38, what question does one of the disciples ask Jesus? Have you ever asked this question when you were in a difficult situation (Psalm 22:1-2; Psalm 77:9-10; Psalm 10:1)?
- (c) Read 1 Peter 5:6-11. In verse 7, what are we told to do and why? In verses 8-9, how does Satan look on our sufferings? In verses 10-11, what will we go through before we reach eternal glory?
- (d) Read 1 Peter 1:6-7. What were these believers experiencing? Why did God allow it?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:23-24 and 1 Peter 5:6-11. Have you ever had a time when you wondered where God was? What kinds of situations make us feel this way? Why does God let us go through such situations?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:23-25** and Matthew 8:26-27 and Mark 4:39. What things are common to all the gospels? What does Mark include that the others leave out?
- (b) What did Jesus do to bring an end to the storm? How quickly did it end? How do all three writers describe the sea after Jesus spoke to it? What does this tell us about the magnitude of this miracle?
- (c) What question do they raise about Jesus because of this miracle (Psalm 89:9)? Why are they still afraid even after the storm has ceased (Luke 8:25; Mark 4:41)? Look ahead to Luke 8:37 and Luke 8:47: why did these fear *after* the miracle?
- (d) How did Peter respond after the miraculous catch in Luke 5:8? Who were they beginning to see that Jesus was?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:22-25 and Luke 12:4-7. What does Luke 12 tell you about both the love and the judgment of God? Why are both essential? Pray for someone who has not come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:23-25** and Mark 4:39. What did Mark *include* that Jesus said to the waves and winds?
- (b) What did Jesus promise his disciples in John 14:27? *How* is his peace different from that of the world?
- (c) How does Paul describe that peace in Philippians 4:6-7? Where is Paul when he is experiencing this peace (Philippians 1:14, 20-21)?
- (d) What are some things that Paul tells these Christians to do (Philippians 4:4-8)? Make a list. Explain how each one can help you to experience God's peace in difficult times.
- (e) *Family:* Read Mark 4:39 and Philippians 4:4-7. Discuss the peace that Jesus gives. How is it beyond all understanding? How does this peace affect our testimony for Him? Talk about a time when Jesus gave us an unexplainable peace in a difficult situation. Take time to praise Him for His peace that passes all understanding.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 8:25.** What question does he ask his disciples? Is He suggesting that their faith would have *stopped* the storm or caused them to *trust* knowing He was in control?
- (b) Read Luke 12:22-32. What is the opposite of faith? *Why* did Jesus tell his disciples that they could trust the Father for all their needs (compare with 1 Peter 5:7)?
- (c) What should be our goal in life (Luke 12:31)? What promise do we have even when it seems like we will lose everything (Luke 12:32)?
- (d) How can we grow in faith (Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 10:11; 1 Peter 1:7)? Which gives God more glory and honor—a miracle or faith in Him? Explain your answer. What does Jesus desire most from us (Luke 18:10)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:25 and Luke 18:10. Define faith. Why does it matter in salvation? Why does it matter for our daily lives? How is God honored by our faith more than anything else we do? Pray that you might be able to trust God for every situation that you face this week.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Luke 8:22-25. What are some reasons why we might suffer or experience hardships in life? Can a person be completely in God's will and still suffer? Have you ever wondered why God does not help in certain situations? How does your faith help you to experience God's peace during those times? Pray for our worship, that the praise and the teaching of God's Word would provide comfort for those who are struggling.

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Power over Creation

“Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?”