



Life Group Discussion Guide  
Proverbs: Wisdom for Life

**Surviving the Storm**

Proverbs 10:25; 13:9 (NIV), Mark 6:45-51 (NIV)

Pastor Jeff Bennett

June 7, 2020

Main Thought: *How do we survive the storm? By discovering that Jesus is the Sovereign over the Storm*

Sunday Outline:

- Disciples' lives are in chaos when apart from Jesus
  - \**Jesus walks where only God can walk*
    - Jesus is walking on the problem*
    - Jesus is walking over death*
  - \**Jesus says what only God can say*
    - Jesus calls us to walk only where God can walk...on...the...storm!*

- Disciples' lives are calm when with Jesus
  - Jesus is sovereign over the storm
- Critical question: Is Jesus in your boat? How do you know?

Welcome & Fellowship Time *(Suggested Time 10 Minutes)*

Open in Prayer

Week in Review: *(Suggested Sharing Time 10 minutes)*

- Pastor Matthew spoke of what Biblical wisdom is and showed examples of characters in the Bible who displayed the "fear of the Lord." How have you seen Biblical wisdom at work in your life this past week specifically as it relates to "fearing the Lord?"

Discussion Starter: *(Suggested Time 5 minutes)*

- Reflect & share some storms (physical, relational, spiritual) you have encountered in life
  - How did the presence of Jesus or lack thereof impact your response to the storm?

Sermon Review: *(Suggested Time 15 minutes)*

- On Sunday, we discussed that storms are a part of life. In both Proverbs 10:25 & Proverbs 13:9, we read that the righteous stand firm & shine brightly, and the wicked are swept away and snuffed out. Discuss what impacted you most about the story of the disciples straining in the boat *against the storm* and Jesus walking on the water out to the disciples *through the storm*.



- Just as the disciples were in the middle of the lake straining at the oars, how are you in the middle of [WHAT?], straining against [WHAT?] right now?
  - *Just as the disciples strained against the storm that appeared to be natural by nature, so oftentimes we strain against storms that appear to be natural by nature. However, in the Greek, the term “strain” is translated as “torment,” oftentimes relating to being tormented by a demonic presence or even souls suffering in hell. How might our struggle & storm—while it may appear to simply be a “natural” struggle & storm—truly be a “supernatural” struggle & storm?*
- Describe the storm and the performance of the disciples when Jesus was not in the boat (Mark 6:48) vs. when Jesus got into the boat (Mark 6:51). Describe the difference in your life when you have Jesus “in your boat” vs. when you do not.

Digging Deeper: (Suggested Time 20 minutes)

- In Mark 6:48, Jesus walks out to the disciples on the water. The actual text in the Greek reads, “*treads the waves of the sea.*” Jesus isn’t just walking on the water, He is walking on the storm & walking on the problem. Our greatest problem is death. What is Mark trying to communicate about Jesus?
  - *Take a look at the language used in Job 9:8...what is Mark saying about Jesus?*
  - *Take a look at Genesis 1:2—Who hovers over the waters?*
  - *Take a look at Psalm 29:10—Who sits enthroned over the flood?*
    - *And what did the Flood (Noah’s flood) represent?*
    - *What do you think the waters represented in the first century?*
- In Mark 6:48, the text reads that Jesus was “about to pass by them.” Compare this language to Job 9:11. What is Mark trying to say about Jesus in this text?
  - *Compare this language also to Exodus 34:19, 20; 22, 23 & 1 Kings 19:11*
- What is Mark saying about Jesus in Mark 6:50, when Jesus uses the same self-declaratory language as used by God in Exodus 3:14?

Application: (Suggested Time 10 minutes)

- What storm are you dealing with that you need to invite Jesus into right now? What does that look like to you?
- The disciples were all straining in the storm together. We do that too. Who do you need to invite to come onto your boat as you weather your storm? And who do you need to invite to leave your boat so you can weather this storm with Jesus as your Lord?



Take group prayer requests and spend time praying for each other. Pray also for application of the study in the lives of the group members. (Suggested Time 20 minutes)