

# The Gospel According to Luke

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## IN THE STORM

## PART 7

*Whom do we trust?*

**READ MATTHEW 8:23-27**

### INTRODUCTION

*In this short section of Scripture we see Jesus finishing up another long day of ministry. It was not uncommon for the crowds to interact with Him all day every day and this day was no different. It is understandable that He would be tired and deserving of a bit of a rest. (Even knowing that when they got to the other shore, the crowd would be waiting for them - see vs 18) Jesus went to rest and that is when the excitement started. The boat that the disciples and Jesus were on was probably not large. Even if it was, the sea of Galilee can have some of the most intense storms for large boats. This was not an ideal situation.*

*The disciples were immediately thrown into this storm and they did what most people do, they panicked. There was life at stake here and they were fearful of perishing. That is not to their detriment, we often face scenarios in which we panic and fear that the Lord is “asleep”. We stop trusting that He will take care of us and we start to try and save ourselves. These were experienced fishermen on the boat after all. They should know how to handle a boat in a storm. This should be an indicator of how rough this storm was. There is nothing wrong with being scared. Where we go to, or better, Who we go to is the difference maker.*

*Jesus knows about all of our problems. He deals with each person individually and on an intimate, personal level. There is nothing that can surprise Him. The difference is that Jesus plans on dealing with our problems in His way and sometimes that is not the way we want it done. Everything obeys Jesus’ voice. If He is “onboard”, we cannot sink. The disciples showed little faith in that they panicked when the Son of God, the Messiah, was onboard their boat. They should’ve had faith that nothing can sink Jesus. We can show little faith when we forget that He is in control. We don’t have to orchestrate our lives in a way that everything works out for our comfort. His Word says that He will work out our lives for the good if we love Him. (Romans 8:28) That is encouraging and should prompt us to take steps to trust Him in every storm and trial.*

## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

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### *DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*

1. Read vs 14-22. What was going on in Jesus' day that would make Him especially tired? Do you think that it is ok for Him to be tired? Why?
2. Read vs 23. Has there ever been a time in your life when you thought the storm was too much? Did it feel like Jesus was "asleep"? How did that make you feel and did Jesus come to your aid?
3. What causes us to panic? Why do you think it is so easy to take our eyes off of Jesus and try to fix it ourselves? How do we avoid doing that in the future?
4. Why do you think God allows storms in our lives? What is their purpose? Do we learn anything from it? How do we learn?
5. Read Romans 8:28. What does this verse mean? Why does Paul encourage us in this manner? What can we take away from this verse to help us when we are going through a storm?

### *WRAP UP*

We are creatures that recognize dangers. We can see and sense when something is off. It is important that when we experience storms that we do not try to fix things ourselves. Instead of being our last resort, let us make Jesus our first. Let us cling to Him in the boat knowing that He is able to command the waves to cease and they will listen. Our boat will not sink as long as Jesus is onboard. So, let us keep Him at the forefront of our lives and serve Him knowing that He will love us and take care of us through anything and everything.