



October 18, 2026

"The Purpose of Storms"

Luke 8:22-25

Luke 8:22-25

22 One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, 23 and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. 24 And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. 25 He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"

Let's immediately jump into the text verse by verse

Luke 8:22

"One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they set out,"

- "One day" helps us know that storms can happen on any day
- Suddenly, out of the blue, storms can come and challenge our lives
- The boat here represents all our lives as Jesus's disciples
- Always remember: Jesus is in our life's boat and He is with us
- The major antidote to life's fearful storms is Jesus's presence
- Always remember as well Jesus's goal: to get to the other side of the Lake of Galilee
- "Let us cross to the other side"
- Jesus has a will and plan for all his disciples

Jesus is living on mission from the Father

1. He was to train these 12 over 3½ years
2. Teach them how to advance his gospel of the kingdom of God
3. Die on the cross to forgive sins
4. Be raised from the dead to show the gift of eternal life
5. Fill his disciples with his resurrection power
6. Send them into the world to make disciples of all the nations
- 7. But first he had to get these disciples to the other side of the Lake of Galilee**

As we walk with Jesus, always remember **Job 42:2**

"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

- No plan of God's can be thwarted
- Nothing is impossible for God
- His plan for his disciples must happen
- They MUST get to the other side of the Lake of Galilee
- This kind of FAITH must be ours to overcome storms
- So, they set out to sea
- Remember: several of these disciples were skilled fishermen
- They'd been on this lake many times
- Out of the blue, sudden storms were often

Luke 8:23

"and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger."

- While on the water, Jesus fell asleep
- Did the gentle rocking of the boat put him to sleep?
- After long periods of preaching, teaching, healing, and praying
- Jesus is totally divine, but also completely human
- As totally human, he became weary and needed sleep
- Mark's gospel tells us Jesus took a cushion and fell asleep (the detail: Peter to Mark)
- A sudden windstorm came out of nowhere
- The mountain range around the Lake of Galilee with one opening to the north
- Winds to the north back up around the mountain

- And are forced in one huge gust into that one opening onto the Lake of Galilee
- These storms are common even today
- This one must have been especially strong — remember some were skilled fishermen
- The boat is filling up with water and they're in danger
- They think they are going to die
- Again, a huge storm comes to Jesus's chosen 12
- Life's storms come to all of Jesus's disciples — no one is immune
- Have you ever felt in one of your life's storms that Jesus is asleep? Doesn't care?
- If so, welcome to what Jesus's disciple felt at that moment
- Fear filled their heart
- Jesus experienced no fear — he remained asleep in the storm

Luke 8:24

"And they went and woke him, saying, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm."

- The disciples went to awaken Jesus
- Two times crying out, "Master, Master!" (shaking him out of his slumber?)
- "We are perishing!" They thought they were going to die
- Reminder: most fears flow from the fear of death
- Get that one settled and so many other fears start to evaporate
- Jesus awoke and immediately rebuked the wind and raging waves
- Note: it's the same word used when Jesus rebuked Satan and his demons
- Did Jesus see the real source of this problem?
- Did Satan think that he could eliminate Jesus, his leaders, and God's plan for the world in one fell swoop?
- Satan tried to keep him from being born (the entire Old Testament)
- Is Satan now trying to keep Jesus from going to the cross?
- Satan in our storms: Is he trying to prevent God's plan from occurring in our lives?
- To give up? Quit? Give up our faith? Never come to faith?
- The disciples should have said, "This story can't end this way."

- Why? Because Jesus said we are going to the other side. We will get there!
- The wind and raging sea ceased
- The storm is stilled and calm ensues

Luke 8:25

"He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?'"

- Jesus then asks them all: "Where is your faith?"
- Note it is their personal faith he is confronting
- He thought their faith was tepid and weak
- Implication? They had faith that could have calmed the storm!
- It's evidently a faith that should have been exercised — especially amidst storms in life
- But they were filled with fear
- Faith is the antidote to fear
- The purpose of life's storms is to test our faith!
- Then they asked the most important question in the universe: "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"
- It's the key question to commence faith
- Who is Jesus to you? How Jesus wants us to answer:

1. He is Lord over nature
2. He is the Lord of the universe
3. He is Lord of your life

If this is true, why fear anything? Jesus oversees all! He has a plan that cannot be thwarted.

When storms come:

1. They are a part of life
2. Jesus slept in the storm to remind you that we can too
3. Faith is the antidote to fear
4. Whatever you **think** is either building your faith or feeding fear
5. Build your faith now to be ready WHEN storms come your way

How to build your faith?

1. Remember your personal miracles
2. Remember miracle stories in the Bible
3. Remember past Bible verses you've committed to memory
4. Remember testimonies of friends and family
5. Remember biographies of Christian saints

What is God's call on your life?

What is the mission he wants you to do?

How can you be an everyday missionary?

No plan God has for you can be thwarted

Let the storm build your faith!

And always pray prayers like this:

"Satan, you have no authority over me. I surrender all to Jesus. Jesus is my master and Creator. You must obey his commands. This is my faith declaration today: No matter what may come my way, my life is in Jesus. Hidden in him. He alone has all authority in heaven and on earth. Jesus and his resurrection now live in me. I rebuke you, Satan, in the mighty name of Jesus. Do what you will, bring storms my way, but my Lord Jesus is with me. In me. Beside me. Behind me. He goes before me. Using your evil plans and strategies for my good and his glory. You meant it for evil, but he meant it for good. Jesus is for me. He is my rock, fortress, shield, deliverer, protector, and strong fortress. I will not be moved. I refuse fear. I take all fearful thoughts captive in my mind. I choose to focus on Jesus's promises that he cares for me. He told me to cast all my cares on him because he cares for me. His plan for me and the life he has given to me cannot be thwarted. He overcame you on the cross. You're a defeated foe. You have no power over me. Therefore, I walk in faith and not by sight. I am more than a conqueror through him who loves me. Jesus is my shepherd; therefore, I shall not want. He is my provider; therefore, I know he will give me all I want and need no matter what. No weapon you form can stand against me. I will fear nothing, for all is in his hands — especially my life. Storm, be still! Winds cease. In Jesus's mighty name I pray this. Amen. And Amen."

Where is your other side of the Lake? To where is Jesus calling you to serve him?