Small Group Discussion Guide

MIRACLES SERIES | JESUS CALMS THE STORM | 30 MINUTES

Scripture: Mark 4:35–41 **Theme:** Trusting God in the storms of life

Big Idea: Sometimes Jesus calms the storm around us, and sometimes He brings peace to our hearts in the middle of the storm.

1. Opening Discussion (5 minutes)

Icebreaker: Have you ever experienced a frightening storm, either on the water or on land? What happened, and how did you respond?

Read Mark 4:35–41 together.

- Jesus told the disciples to cross the lake, yet they encountered a dangerous storm. What does this teach us about following Jesus?
- The disciples asked, “Don’t you care if we drown?” Have you ever felt like God was silent or distant during a difficult season?

2. Three Truths About Life’s Storms (15 minutes)

Truth #1: We are in the storm by God’s appointment.

Being in God’s will doesn’t mean we are exempt from life’s storms.

- Why do we sometimes assume that following Jesus should make life easier?
- Storms can come from our decisions, spiritual opposition, or living in a broken world. How does knowing God is aware of our circumstances change our perspective?

Truth #2: We are in the storm with His presence.

Hebrews 13:5 — “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

- Jesus was asleep while the disciples were panicking. What does His response reveal about His character?
- Can you share a time when you experienced God’s presence or peace during a difficult situation?
- What can we do to remind ourselves that God is with us, even when we can’t see what He’s doing?

Truth #3: We are in the storm for His purposes.

Read James 1:2–4. “In storms, we want God to do a removing job, but He wants to do an improving job.”

- What is the difference between asking God to remove a difficulty and asking Him to grow us through it?
- Looking back on a difficult season, what did God develop in your character or faith?
- What might God be teaching you through a challenge you’re currently facing?

3. Finding Peace in the Storm (5 minutes)

Read Mark 4:39–40 again. Sometimes God calms our circumstances; other times He calms our hearts while circumstances remain unchanged.

- Which is harder for you: trusting God to change your circumstances or trusting Him when they don’t change? Why?
- How can we support someone in a storm without offering quick answers or minimizing their pain?

4. Personal Application & Prayer (5 minutes)

Reflect: What is one storm in your life where you need to trust God more fully?

“Even if God doesn’t change my circumstances, I can trust His character, His presence, and His purposes.”

Pray for faith in uncertainty, awareness of God’s presence, peace beyond circumstances, and opportunities to encourage others.

Takeaway for the Week: By His appointment. With His presence. For His purposes. You may not always understand what God is doing, but you can trust who He is.