

**Scripture reading:** Exodus 20:1-17 & Mark 4:35-41  
**Psalter singing:** 246:1-3 – 285:1-4 – 383:1-3 – 362:2-3

**THOUGH STORMS ARE FEARFUL, IF YOU FOLLOW JESUS IN FAITH, YOU NEED NOT BE AFRAID**

**I. As you live on this earth, you cannot avoid troubles in your life**

A. When we left God, we stepped into a stormy land: Gen. 3:17-19

B. Therefore you will not avoid storms, trials, sufferings: Job 5:7; 14:1-5

**II. But even if you follow Jesus, you will also not avoid storms**

A. Jesus' disciples obeyed Him and took Him onto the lake: Mark 4:35-36

B. Their experience teaches: *Following Jesus may not mean smooth sailing!*

**III. If you meet storms following Jesus, He is strengthening your trust in Him**

A. Jesus' disciples struggle with *stormy waters and a sleeping Jesus* (37-38)

B. Jesus' disciples are overtaken by their fears (38) but saved (39, 41)

C. If Jesus is so powerful to *stop* storms, why will He not *prevent* storms?

1. Because He knows storms build your faith to be like His (vs. 38a)

2. Because His wisdom knows storms makes you need Him more (vs. 38b)

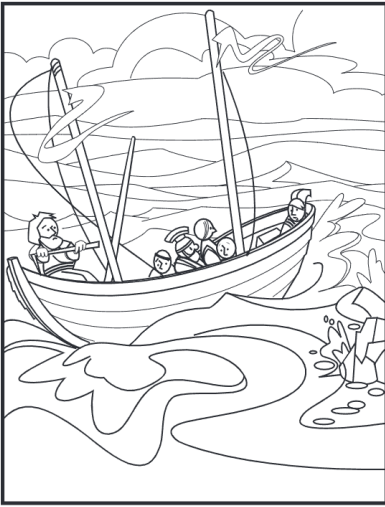
3. Because He knows your faith only grows when you use it (vs. 40, 41)

**Wrap up:** *Don't fear the storms if you faithfully follow and trust Jesus!*

A. Storms come but not by chance!

B. Storms can make you afraid but may not make you despair!

C. Storms are Jesus' methods to draw your closer to Him!



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### **Before you listen to the sermon ...**

1. The difficulties we meet in life are like storms. What difficult things have you already met with?

2. If you could talk to someone going through a storm, what would you suggest he or she do?

### **When you are listening to the sermon ...**

3. Why are there stormy things in your and other people's lives?

4. Will you get storms in your life? Circle the right answers: **Yes – No – Maybe**

5. True/False: *If you love the Lord and follow Him, you will not get many storms.*

6. Who of the Lord's followers in the Bible did get many difficult storms?

7. The disciples woke up Jesus. Yet He did not tell them off for doing that. What can you learn from that?

8. Since Jesus or His Father are to keep a storm from happening, He often does not. What are His good reasons allowing storms to come in your life?

### **After you go home ...**

9. What will you give God thanks for this today?

10. How will this sermon help you? Or how will this sermon help you to be a better helper?