



# DISCUSSION NOTES

**DECEMBER 4, 2016**

Pray and ask God to teach you, help you trust Him more deeply, & strengthen you to live what you learn.

## GETTING STARTED

1. What is one natural fear that you have (spiders, snakes, heights, gluten, public speaking)?

## DIGGING IN

2. Read Mark 4:35-41. Spend a few minutes observing the text. Whose idea was it to head out in the boat? How many people went? Were there other boats as well? How is the storm described? What impact was the storm having on the boat?
3. What was Jesus doing during the storm? What had Jesus been doing before this episode? What time of day was it? What does this tell us about Jesus and his humanity?
4. What question do the disciples ask of Jesus (in verse 38)? Is there anything surprising about the question? What assumptions or expectations do they make about Jesus?
5. After he calms the storm, Jesus speaks his disciples (in verse 40). What rebuke does Jesus give to them? Does this seem fair to you? Why or why not?
6. What were the disciples afraid of in verses 37-40? What were they afraid of in verse 41? Why is this significant?
7. How does Jesus respond to the storm (in verse 39)? How does the storm respond to Jesus? What does this tell us about Jesus and his divinity?

## LIVING IT OUT

8. Jesus sets up fear and faith as competing forces when he says, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" (in verse 40). How might your faith help you to deal with your fear?
9. What is one thing that causes you to fear? Are you currently facing any difficult storms or trials in life?
10. Why is it important to believe that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine? How can this understanding increase our trust in Jesus?
11. At the end of this experience, the disciples were filled with awe and wonder at the power of Jesus. Proverbs 9:10 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight." How might you increasingly live with a sense of the fear of the Lord this week?
12. How is God calling you personally to respond in light of what we've seen in God's Word?