

**Storms - recap**

- Jesus sleeping in the boat. Disciples experience a **Physical, Emotional** and **Spiritual** Storm.
- **Three Storms**
  - **Physical Storms: Wind & Waves:**
  - **Emotional Storms: Do you not care that we die:**
  - **Spiritual Storm: You of little or no faith:**  
We see Jesus in a new light – “Who is this man”, call to you and me: Do the same...
- So often physical storms turn into emotional Storms? Emotional storms test your Faith in God and His Promises – Spiritual Storm

**Text: Matt 14:25-33** – Peter walks on the water

**1) Spiritual Storm**

- The presence of a storm does not indicate an absence of Jesus
    - Our focus should not be on the storm (circumstance), not be on the Fear (circumstance)
    - Our focus should be on Jesus – Faith in the One who can change circumstance
  - Peter had faith – just **short duration of faith – short bursts of faith**
    - Peter allowed the physical storm to become emotional and fear stopped his faith
  - a) Endurance - Patience**
    - They were doing what they were instructed – crossing to the other side
    - Look at Peter – walking on the water – He had faith, just short bursts of faith
    - Take a look at **James 1:2-8**
      - Grk ‘Hupomene’ – “**Hang in there power**” Meno = to stay; remain; continue, abide, Hypo = Under something heavy
      - Storm tests your faith and develops Patience / Endurance
      - Abide – you can ask whatever you like Jhn 15:7
      - Endure through it – Jesus died, endured the cross Heb 12:2
    - Joy – Is not happiness – it is a spiritual force to drive us through the storm
      - Jesus had joy because ‘**He saw the other side**’ – **not the storm**
      - We took, can have Joy in the storm when we see the other side  
i.e. Sickness – See yourself well, experience the Joy of believing
  - b) Spiritually Lead in the Storm – Take Authority**
    - **First story** – Jesus spoke to the wind & waves – demonstrated his authority
    - **Second Story** – Jesus just walked on the storm
    - We too must take authority in the storm; ‘**Lead the Storm**’ – How? Mrk 11:22-23
      - Speak to It, rebuke the storm
      - Walk on the Storm (Jesus did, Peter did) – Lead the storm
    - Nowhere in the Bible did Jesus ever rebuke people for stepping out in faith  
i.e. Centurion servant, Jairus daughter, woman with issue of blood, lepers healing
  - c) Link up with Jesus**
    - Gordon – Take Jesus’ hand
    - **Prayer:** They asked Jesus; Peter called to Jesus – we call it Prayer
    - **The Word:** Hold fast to Jesus – The Word – Hold fast your confession Heb 4:14
      - Be a master of the Word – Use the word, understand, comprehend
      - Centurion servant; left Jesus believing Lk 7:1:10
- 2) Pursue Spiritual Health - Am I living today in a way that will help me to thrive tomorrow?**
- Look out for Spiritual cracks – Spiritual Disciplines / boundaries/ foundations  
**Do our emotions determine our faith today, or Does of faith walk determine our emotions?**
    - What is the ‘One Thing’ could I remove/change to make me better for it?
  - **Faith Life - Am I?**
    - Are we growing our Faith? Reading the Word & Praying Daily Rom 10:17
    - See the end of the storm – this develops Joy & endurance
    - Praise - Give thanks for this is the will of God 1 Thess 5:16-18
    - Stand up and Fight
  - **Ministry Life:**
    - Are we serving faithfully? Am I playing my part in this body? Am I a contributor or a consumer?
    - Can somebody hold on to you – will you be the Pointer...
  - **Circle Life:**
    - Are you involved regular in your Connect Group?
    - It’s part of our emotional foundations – stay connected
    - Are we missing church, not watching online, watch parties?
  - **Who is this man?**
    - Find out Who Jesus is, by talking with others – testimony develops faith
    - Find out by reading His Word, listening to the Word (Podcasts)
    - Be purposeful in your pursuit of Jesus (can’t drift into strong faith)
    - Who do you identify with?
      - We should aim to represent Jesus