

FAITH IN THE STORM

Please help people to explore these questions. Allow five minutes for each. There is an extra question if people struggle to engage with the first three.

1. For different age groups, what life experiences could be described as 'storms'?
2. Jesus frequently called his disciples out over issues of faith. Why was/is faith so important for a follower of Jesus?
3. To what extent has it been true that your response to the pandemic has been one of 'fortitude' (courage) rather than faith? When has faith been important? When has it been lacking?
4. **(If time available)** There is a lot of evidence that Jesus was less than gentle when mentoring disciples. Why do you think this is?

MARK 4:35 That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' ³⁶ Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him.

³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?' ³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'

⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'

Jesus's Challenge

MT	You of little faith
MT/MK	Why are you so afraid?
MK	Do you still have no faith?
LK	Where is your faith?