

## **From Fear To Faith** - 路加福音 Luke 8:22-25

Icebreaker: Share one thing that you are afraid of and why: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Read Luke 8:22-23**

1. From v.22-23. We see adversity in life sometimes come very sudden and unexpected (as the word 有一天、忽然 suggested the unexpectedness of life). Do you have any experience that an adversity or trouble comes very sudden, caught you by surprise?

2. Jesus never guarantees “always blue skies” for people who follow him. In this passage it was Jesus who told the disciples to get into a boat and go over to the other side of the lake, yet when the storm came, Jesus did nothing but fell asleep (v.22-23). Can you relate to that? Share an experience that someone told you to do something, but he/she did not back you up when trouble comes. Or you can share a situation that you thought God would help you/guide you, but you felt God was “asleep” for that moment.

3. The boat is a comfort zone/protection for the disciples (v.23). The boat was about to be swamped! Meaning their comfort zone/protection was about to be overran. Why do you think Jesus was asleep? Jesus sometimes allow our comfort zone to be overtaken – so we can step out of our comfort zone and security → so we can rely on Him, so we can have more faith, so our security is based on our trust in the LORD. (Matthew 14, the next time the disciples encounter storm, Jesus did not calm it immediately, but instead, Peter walked on water with Jesus in the storm).

Challenge: is there any comfort zone, self-reliance, that we need to step out of?

### **Read Luke 8:24-25**

4. Ocean, Lake, Water is something that the Jewish people fear the most. For them, water = bad, chaos, unpredictable, have water monster 混亂、可怕、有怪物

• 創世記 Genesis 1:2 地是空虛混沌，淵面黑暗；(但)神的靈運行在水面上。The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And/But the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters (NKJV) → 雖然空虛渾沌，但神的靈在混亂之上！

• 出埃及記 Exodus 2:10 她給孩子起名叫摩西，意思說：「因我把他從水裡拉出來。」 So she called his name Moses, saying, “Because I drew him out of the water.” → 摩西=從水中拉出來 double meaning – 救以色列人脫離苦難

• 約伯記 Job 7:12 我對神說:我豈是洋海，豈是大魚，你竟防守我呢？(Job said to God, “Am I a sea, or a sea serpent (sea monster), that You set a guard over me?”) → Sea and sea monster are Bad!

• 啟示錄 Revelation 21:1 我又看見一個新天新地；因為先前的天地已經過去了，海也不再有了。 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. → No sea = no more bad stuff, no more chaos/disorder = God in control

So in v.25, they were really saying, “Who is this Jesus? Even our biggest fear in life, He could overcome it!” What is your biggest fear right now? Let’s spend time to pray and give your biggest fear to Jesus, have him help you to overcome it.

5. v.25, instead of fearing the storm, now the disciples fear/revere/in awe 敬畏 of Jesus, because they knew God was present there! How much time do we spend worrying about things, fearing about things in life? Yet how much time do we spend fearing the LORD? Worry about if things we do is pleasing in His eyes? Which one is more important? Is there any adjustment I should make?