



fellowship church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Feb 8, 2026 - Kyle Baldwin

The Storm and the Son of God (Matthew 14:22-36)

Summary: This week's sermon focused on how we respond when life's "storms" become overwhelming. Kyle taught through the story of Jesus walking on water and Peter's attempt to join Him, highlighting the necessity of fixing our eyes on Jesus in the midst of trials. Because the Son of God is sovereign over all things, we must look to Him in faith, regardless of our circumstances.

Discussion Starter

- Was there anything in this week's sermon that was particularly convicting or encouraging to you? Why?
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Reflection Questions

- At the beginning of the sermon Kyle asked an essential question: "In the face of trials... what do you do?" In your own life, who or what do you tend to turn to when you feel overwhelmed or afraid?
 - Kyle's main point was that when trials come, "We must fix our eyes on the Son of God, who is sovereign over all circumstances." What factors (external or internal) make it difficult to keep this perspective when we are experiencing trials?
 - Peter began to sink when he took his eyes off Jesus, but Jesus caught him. It was the *object* of Peter's faith that saved him in that moment, not the *measure* of his faith. How is this truth a comfort to us in our own circumstances?
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Application Questions

- (Personal implications) Kyle noted that the disciples were frightened, because they did not see Jesus rightly. As a result, their trial seemed "bigger than God." How does rightly understanding Jesus' identity as the sovereign I AM reorient our perspective on the trials we face?

- Kyle encouraged us to cry out to the Lord for help when we are overwhelmed. How can drawing near to Jesus in these moments change the way we experience them?
- (Communal implications) Kyle notes that God uses trials to refine our faith (1 Pt 1:6–7). Has there been a time in your life when you grew spiritually because of a trial? If so, would you be willing to share that story to encourage others in the group?
- When the storm ended, the disciples responded with worship, declaring that Jesus was truly the Son of God (Matthew 14:33). What might it look like to help one another fix our eyes on Jesus and worship even in times of fear?
 - (Leaders: Consider taking a few minutes to pray together, using the time to honor and praise Jesus as the sovereign Son of God.)
- (Missional implications) Trials are a universal experience in a fallen world. Think of the people in your life who do not know Jesus and may be experiencing overwhelming circumstances. What opportunities do you have to share the hope and comfort of Jesus with them? (Consider what gospel truths you could share, but also what tangible acts of service you could provide.)

This week's guide written by: Katie Williamson

Tips for Group Leaders

- DO ask open-ended questions. DON'T ask questions where a short "right" answer ends the discussion.
- DO encourage mutual participation by every group member. DON'T feel the need to respond or weigh in after every contribution. Avoid monologuing. As the leader, your goal is to facilitate mutual discussion between all group members (Eph 4:15–16).
- DO ask follow-up questions: "What do you mean by that?" "Tell me more!" "Has anyone else experienced something similar (or different)?"
- DO feel free to pick and choose questions that are a good fit for your group. DON'T feel the need to get through every question, and don't worry if you spend most of your time on a few questions that generate a lot of good discussion.
- DO keep the main thing the main thing. Steer your conversation toward the main theme of the sermon and the biblical text. DON'T get sidetracked on less important matters, theological debates, etc. A rabbit trail might sometimes be worth pursuing—if group members are wrestling deeply with the implications of biblical truth for their lives. Otherwise, steer conversation back to the main topic.
- DO get into the text. It could be helpful to read over the passage together or ask questions directly related to the text. Help group members engage the text for themselves and respond to what they see there.
- DO revisit important moments from the sermon—a memorable story, an impactful quote, a convicting point of application. "Remember when pastor X talked about Y? What impression did that make on you?"
- DO allow space for reflection, silence, and thoughtful answers. DON'T feel that you need to jump in or ask a new question just because the group has been quiet for a few seconds. A good rule of thumb is to wait until the silence gets awkward, then count silently to ten before jumping in.
- DO bring discussions home to practical, concrete everyday life. DON'T let discussion and application stay in the abstract realm. Steer discussion toward *what does responding to this sermon look like for me?* If comments are vague or general, ask "what would that look like, practically?"