

THE VALUE OF STORMS – Discussion guide

(Mark 4:35-41)

1. Describe a storm that you've endured that caused you to wonder if God had abandoned you.

2. What do you think the storm revealed about you?

3. Read Mark 4:35-41 aloud and answer the questions that follow.

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 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?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

• What are the most striking things this story reveals about Jesus?

• What are the most striking things this story reveals about Jesus followers?

4. What storms are currently raging—or brewing—around you or within you?

5. Specifically, what would help you be assured of God's care so that you might trust him in the midst of this storm?

God wishes to be seen, and he wishes to be sought, and he wishes to be expected, and he wishes to be trusted.

- Juliana of Norwich, medieval mystic (1342-1416)