



WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Shelter from the Storm • Pastor Brian Zahnd • August 17, 2025

1. Have you ever found yourself outside or on the road during a really bad storm? If so, what was that experience like?
2. Are you a Bob Dylan fan? (*It's ok to say no!*) If you are, what is your favorite Dylan song? If you are not a Dylan fan, who is your favorite musical artist?

Read Isaiah 4:6

3. What lines from this Dylan song most remind you of the church? *Lyrics are on the pages that follow.*
4. Pastor Brian said, “The dominant prophetic metaphor for what I want Word of Life Church to look like as we gather on Sunday morning is a shelter from the storm.” How can Word of Life online be a shelter from the storm?

Read John 14:27

5. In what ways does the gospel of Jesus bring peace and in what ways does it bring division?
6. Why do some Christians insist on weaponizing worship to conquer their culture-war enemies?
7. What does the church offer people that they can find no other place?
8. How can we enact a beautiful presence in the world?

Watch the music video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gsDBuHwqbM>

Shelter from the Storm

Bob Dylan

'Twas in another lifetime, one of toil and blood
When blackness was a virtue the road was full of mud
I came in from the wilderness, a creature void of form
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

And if I pass this way again, you can rest assured
I'll always do my best for her, on that I give my word
In a world of steel-eyed death, and men who are fighting to be warm
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

Not a word was spoke between us, there was little risk involved
Everything up to that point had been left unresolved
Try imagining a place where it's always safe and warm
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

I was burned out from exhaustion, buried in the hail
Poisoned in the bushes an' blown out on the trail
Hunted like a crocodile, ravaged in the corn
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

Suddenly I turned around and she was standin' there
With silver bracelets on her wrists and flowers in her hair
She walked up to me so gracefully and took my crown of thorns
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

Now there's a wall between us, somethin' there's been lost
I took too much for granted, I got my signals crossed
Just to think that it all began on an uneventful morn
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

Well, the deputy walks on hard nails and the preacher rides a mount
But nothing really matters much, it's doom alone that counts
And the one-eyed undertaker, he blows a futile horn
Come in, she said

I'll give ya shelter from the storm

I've heard newborn babies wailin' like a mournin' dove
And old men with broken teeth stranded without love
Do I understand your question, man, is it hopeless and forlorn
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

In a little hilltop village, they gambled for my clothes
I bargained for salvation and she gave me a lethal dose
I offered up my innocence I got repaid with scorn
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm

Well, I'm livin' in a foreign country but I'm bound to cross the line
Beauty walks a razor's edge, someday I'll make it mine
If I could only turn back the clock to when God and her were born
Come in, she said
I'll give ya shelter from the storm