



# 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