

## More Than a Miracle – Week 6 Small Group Questions

### Ice Breaker

1. What is the worst storm you have been in? What were some of the challenges you faced?

### Scripture

Matthew 14:22-36, Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. <sup>23</sup> After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone. <sup>24</sup> Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. <sup>25</sup> About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!" <sup>27</sup> But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!" <sup>28</sup> Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." <sup>29</sup> "Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted. <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?" <sup>32</sup> When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. <sup>33</sup> Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed. <sup>34</sup> After they had crossed the lake, they landed at Gennesaret. <sup>35</sup> When the people recognized Jesus, the news of his arrival spread quickly throughout the whole area, and soon people were bringing all their sick to be healed. <sup>36</sup> They begged him to let the sick touch at least the fringe of his robe, and all who touched him were healed.

### Discuss

1. What significance might there be in Jesus walking on the water towards the disciples' boat?

## Leaders Note:

*“When it says He intended to pass them by, it doesn't mean He wanted to leave them there; it means He wanted them to see Him walking on the water in the storm. He wanted them to see that He was bigger than the storm. That He had power over the storm. He wanted to show Himself. To reveal who He was.” Pastor Jeff*

2. Pastor Jeff mentioned that in one translation it says that Jesus was going to “pass by” the Disciples. Do you ever feel like the Lord is passing you by leaving you alone in whatever storm you are facing? If and when that happens how should we respond?
3. How have you seen God reveal Himself in the storms of life you have faced?
4. Read Isaiah 41:10. According to this verse, Why should we not be afraid?
5. How can the storms we face be seen as an opportunity to reflect God's glory?
6. Why did Peter begin to sink when he took his eyes off Jesus and focused on the storm? How did Jesus respond when Peter cried out for help?

## Practice

1. What lessons can we take away from this passage on trusting Jesus in the midst of life's storms?
2. What are the storms you are facing right now? If comfortable, share one with the group and then, in your time of prayer, personalize Proverbs 10:25 and Isaiah 41:10, making them your words to yourself and to the Lord. Consider taking time during your daily devotions to seek out Scripture that focuses on fear, faith, God's presence, and putting them where you can be regularly reminded that we have nothing to fear because Jesus is always with us in the storm.