

RESPOND (Application for this week) **WHAT** were the most significant scriptures for you this week? _____

WHY are those scriptures *significant to you* at this time in your life?

HOW can you practically apply what God spoke to you about this week?

[Try to respond in terms of specific action steps, specific people, long-term plan.]
[The Scriptures say that "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." AND that "without faith it is impossible to please Him." (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6).] That means that for me to grow & live by faith, as Jesus challenged His disciples to do, I need to listen to what Jesus says - and not fear what goes on in the world. And for me to listen to the Lord, I need to spend regular time "with Him" - in the word. I am going to plan - in my daily schedule - daily time to be "with Jesus" - in the word - so I will grow in faith & trust in Him and see how He can work in my _____ life _____ in _____ everyday circumstances. _____

WHAT will be the time frame for your application?

(1) Start Date _____ (2) **Progress** Check Date(s) _____ (3) Finish Date _____
/ / /

WHO I can ask to hold me accountable for my application: _____

Sermon-Based Devotional

Lawrence Free Methodist Church
(Based on a Sermon by Pastor Bill Bump on January 28, 2018)

Series: The Gospel of LUKE

*Note - There is an OVERVIEW of Luke available on the kiosk where you pick up this Devotional. You may find it helpful in your study and processing of the sermon and this Sermon-Based Devotional.

JESUS: A FRIEND OF THE FEARFUL

Today, as we look at Luke 8:22-25, we will learn how Jesus impacts our life no matter how **bad** or how **many** storms come crashing into our life.

Luke 8:23 - The Sea of Galilee (actually a large lake) is even today the scene of fierce storms, sometimes with waves as high as 20 feet! Jesus' disciples were not frightened without cause. Even though several of them were experienced fishermen and knew how to handle a boat, their peril was real!

Adapted from the Life Application Bible, New Living Translation, Large Print Edition, Tyndale, pp. 2,209

1. Jesus is **with us** in the midst of the **storm**.

READ Luke 8:22-24a **Mark what stands out to you.**

²² One day Jesus said to His disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and started out. ²³ As they sailed across, Jesus settled down for a nap. But soon a fierce storm came down on the lake. The boat was filling with water, and they were in real danger. ²⁴ The disciples went and woke Him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!"

READ Mark 4:38 **Mark what stands out to you.**

Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with His head on a cushion. The disciples woke Him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't You care that we're going to drown?"

Though they were experienced fishermen, all they **depended** on for security was suddenly **challenged** and found wanting.

REFLECT Write your thoughts from what you marked in the above two passages.

I.E. - Jesus spent a lot of time with His disciples - which allowed them to experience life with Him in many ways. I believe everything Jesus did was intentional - & He modeled the "with Him" principle as a lifestyle. [And He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him, and that He might send them out to preach." (Mark 3:14)] **Now write your thoughts.**

Where is Jesus when we **need Him most**? He is **with us** in the midst of the storm.

2. Jesus is with us in the midst of the calm.

READ Luke 8:24b-25 **Mark what stands out to you.**

²⁴ When Jesus woke up, He rebuked the wind and the raging waves. Suddenly the storm stopped and all was calm. ²⁵ Then He asked them, "Where is your faith?" The disciples were terrified and amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "When He gives a command, even the wind and waves obey Him!"

Luke 8:23-25 – When caught in the storms of life, it is easy to think that God has lost control and that we are at the mercy of the winds of fate. In reality, God is sovereign. He controls the history of the world as well as our personal destiny. Just as Jesus calmed the waves, He can calm whatever storms you may face.

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REFLECT Write your thoughts from what you marked in Luke 8:24b-25.

I.E. – It was only until the disciples, who were with Him, went to Jesus and made their request, that Jesus took action, and the disciples then experienced His power.

Why do you think Jesus asked His disciples, "Where is your faith?"

[Keep in mind that this *could* have been a guided experience for them by Jesus.]

Panic had blinded the eyes of faith.

If we are not careful, we can become controlled by fear.

2 Timothy 1:7 *For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.*

Other translations of 2 Timothy 1:7

(You will be asked to comment on these verses on Page 3. Mark what stands out to you.)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control. (The Amplified Bible)

For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; instead His Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control. (Today's English Version)

3. Reasons we can go to Jesus with our storms:

A. He has the power to overcome any storm.

B. He is always with us.

Hebrews 13:5 *Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you."*

C. He is the Prince of Peace.

Philippians 4:7 *Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.*

D. He conquered the grave.

Our greatest enemy has been defeated.

Conclusion

The secret of the Christian life is to continue learning to walk by faith that is based on the Word of God and trust in the unseen spiritual realities that let us know Jesus is alive, present, and fully aware of the various storms in our life at this very moment.

Because of our faith, we know we may perish physically but we shall never perish spiritually.

READ the following passages. The passage from the Book of JOB is given in four translations. **Mark everything that stands out to you.**

Psalms 29:10, 11

¹⁰ The LORD sat as King at the flood; Yes, the LORD sits as King forever.

¹¹ The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace. (NASB)

Job 42:2

² I know that Thou canst do all things, And that no purpose of Thine can be thwarted. (NASB)

² I know that You can do anything, and no one can stop You. (NLT)

² I know that You can do all things, and that no thought or purpose of Yours can be restrained or thwarted. (AMP)

² I know, LORD, that You are all-powerful; that You can do everything You want. (TEV)

REFLECT Write your thoughts from what you marked in 2 Timothy 1:7 and the above passages in this box. _____
