



“Puzzled???”

Trusting God when things don't make sense

Week 2: Sometimes God will calm the storm in your Soul before he calms the storm of your circumstance.

*“**Now** we see things imperfectly, like **puzzling reflections** in a mirror, but **then** we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I **know** now is partial and incomplete, but **then** I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.”*
(1 Corinthians 13:12, NLT)

*“Immediately Jesus **made** the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.”* (Matthew 14:22–24, NIV)

*“Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. **But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”**”*
(Matthew 14:25–27, NIV)

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*““Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, **he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”**”* (Matthew 14:28–30, NIV)

*“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the **proven genuineness of your faith**—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.”* (1 Peter 1:6–7, NIV)

*“Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” And when they climbed into the boat, **the wind died down.**”*
(Matthew 14:31–32, NIV)

*“Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, **“Truly you are the Son of God.”**”* (Matthew 14:33, NIV)

Talk and Think It Through

Talking and thinking through the message during the week, helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps.

Key Questions:

- How have you seen God use the storms in your life as a footpath toward Him?
- Has there been a time when you felt abandoned by God in the midst of a storm. How did God ultimately show you that He was with you?
- What storms are you rowing against right now? How will you keep your faith strong during these storms?
- With your Bible or Bible App, read, reflect and discuss Matthew 14:22-33
- Sometimes God will calm the storm in your soul before He calms the storm of your circumstance. How have you experienced the truth of this statement?
- What storms have you endured that God used to stretch the depths of your faith? How have you seen God's timing be different from your own?
- What things cause you to doubt and waver in your faith?
- How would you rate the level of your faith in God currently? Where is your faith strong and where might it be weak?

Next Steps:

What's one thing you'll do this week grow your faith in God?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Grow your faith in God in the midst of the storms of life by reading and talking over the following Bible passages this week

Day 1: Matthew 14:22-36

Day 2: 1 Corinthians 13:11-13

Day 3: 1 Peter 1:6-9

Day 4: Matthew 8:23-27

Day 5: Deuteronomy 31:6

Day 6: Psalm 107:1-43

Day 7: Psalm 34:1-22

