

# Weather Worries

By Rev. Lee Yates



In this story there is a storm, there are spastic disciples and Jesus gets a nap. Could this story actually be advice for navigating the constant change and chaotic pace of our young adult years? Read this story again and listen to Jesus. He could be talking to you.

**For**  
Young Adults

**Season**  
Fall

**Needed**  
Bible, computer with internet connection and Microsoft Word

## Activity Plan

1. Visit [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) and follow the links to *i-Witness Weather* and look through some of the photographs posted. Choose a few that really get your attention. Copy the photographs into Microsoft Word or similar program on your computer. Give each picture its own page. Below each picture, write a paragraph or more about a time in your life that the picture could be describing. This can be literal or symbolic. For example, if you remember a tornado coming through your community as a child, you can describe what you remember. You might also have a time in your life that felt like you were spinning out of control and hurting those around you. The same picture could be used to illustrate both. Save each picture with a reflection on a life experience.
2. After exploring your own weather worries, open your Bible to Mark 4:35-41 (see next page) and read the story often referred to as “Jesus Calms a Storm.” You can read similar versions in Matthew 8 and Luke 8. In each version, Jesus is trying to take some time away from a large crowd. Jesus is looking for some quiet space. In each version, the Disciples wake him up in a frantic state.
  - Looking back at each of your weather reflections, think about what you would want Jesus to do for you. What did you pray then or how would you pray if you were in that situation today?
3. Read the Bible story again, and think about what impact twelve grown men would have running around a small boat screaming, yelling, and shaking Jesus.
  - Which do you think concerned Jesus more: the storm or the screaming disciples? If you were Jesus, what do you think you would have said to the disciples?

4. Read the story a third time, and think about the wind and storm. Think about the power of the storm.
  - What does it mean that Jesus can speak to the weather and calm it down.
5. Look back at your weather reflections. Use the following questions to further connect the Bible story and your weather reflections:
  - How does your response to a problem make it better or worse?
  - How do you think Jesus would want to respond to your problem?
  - How do you think Jesus would want to respond to your response?
  - Where in your life do you need to hear Jesus say, "Peace, be still!"?
  - What person or activity helps you calm down in the midst of chaos?
  - Where in the lives of friends and family does Jesus call you to say, "Peace, be still!"?
  - Where is the church called to speak, "Peace be still!" in our world today?
6. Are you willing to share your weather pictures and reflections? We would love to share some of your storm stories with us at [Vibrant Faith @ Home](#). Log on to see what storms other users are facing and how God has helped calm their storms.

## Jesus Calms a Storm

### Mark 4:35-14

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

### Matthew 8:23-27

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

### Luke 8:22-25

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"

