

# **Overcoming Fear with Faith**

Week of December 27, 2015

These discussion questions can be used the week following the message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your Connect Group discussions.

#### Message Recap: Read Matthew 8:23-27

Being a follower of Jesus doesn't mean that we will suddenly have a easy life where everything is okay. Following Jesus means we are on the road with him, being active and experiencing life. When the storms of life come, they can cause us to have fear but Jesus wants us to have faith instead. In fact, the only way to learn how to overcome fear is to learn how to trust in Jesus. And we learn how to trust in Jesus when we are in the most stormy of situations. The storms we face are not about staying safe; they are about living Jesus, loving well, and believing big!

### Pray

I have been living a safe life; the kind of life that isn't really making an impact for you. Help me change that. Help me live a life that is a little scary so I can step out on the road and really live the way you want me to--to glorify you and grow the kingdom.

Share Your Experience This Week #SevernRun

#### **Getting Started**

- Have you ever been in a situation where you were really afraid? What happened?
- When is the last time you have boldly followed where God was leading you, without worrying about your safety or your ability? How did God "show up" for you?

#### **Listening Deeply**

- What makes you fearful about your life, especially a life following Jesus?
- 2. What does Pastor John mean when he says, "Fear can only be overcome On The Road with Jesus"?
- 3. Why does it take a stormy situation to learn how to overcome fear? Have you ever had this experience?
- 4. How can "Drama cause us to drown"?
- 5. How do these stormy situations cause our faith to grow? Has your faith ever grown stronger because of a challenging situation? How?
- 6. Share some practical ways that you can rebuke fear and increase your faith.
- 7. How will you start living a life "On The Road" based on what you learned this week?

## Living Wide in Jesus

Very often, Jesus will allow us to face stormy situations so we learn how to depend on him. We want to live easy lives when we become followers of Jesus. But if we live safe lives in the harbor, we will never really know how real and how big God is. This week, face your storms with faith instead of fear, trust in Jesus, rebuke your fear, and believe that God will do big things in your life.