

## Book Study – Matthew 8:18-27

### The Cost of Following Christ and Jesus Calms the Storm

#### Before We Begin Our Journey...

1. Why do only a few people follow Christ for a lifetime?
2. What is your scariest "bad weather story"?
3. What kind of sleeper are you? Do you snore?



#### Do Some Digging and Pre-planning...

4. Where does this story take place and why are they there? Who approached Jesus and what was his proposition? What answer did Jesus give? (8:18-20)
5. Who asks Jesus about taking care of a problem at home? What did Jesus say to this disciple? Wow! Is Jesus for real? Does he really mean this? Explain your answer. (8:21-22)
6. What surprise did the boaters encounter in this scene? (8:24)
7. How did Jesus reply to the disciples' expression of fear and what did he do in response? (8:26)
8. What excellent question did the disciples raise? (8:27)

#### Sort, Organize, Gain Understanding...

9. In what ways might a family (parents, siblings, or children) get in the way of following Jesus?
10. In what ways can our love for Christ cost us?
11. Why do you think most people—even nonreligious folks—turn to God when things really fall apart?
12. Why do we panic about the storms swirling around us when the God of the universe lives inside us?

#### Application for the Journey...

13. What can you do this week to encourage a Christian who has made sacrifices to follow Christ?
14. This week, what specific ways can you demonstrate your belief that Jesus will see you through the storms in your life?



#### Direction Finder...

What are your greatest fears?

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What is holding you back?

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Can you "be like Jesus?" (NOTES)

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#### A prayer for your journey...

"Lord Jesus, as I walk through this coming week, help me prepare for my journey by reading my Bible more regularly, seeking help as I need it from my Christian friends and focusing on the needs of others instead of myself. Help me to demonstrate my faith by stepping into the unknown, untried, and untested areas of my life." -Amen