October 19th, 2026

Luke 8:22-25:

“Now on one of those days, he and his disciples entered into a boat; and he said to them, ‘Let's go over to the other side of the lake.’ So they launched out. But as they sailed, he fell asleep. A wind storm came down on the lake, and they were taking on dangerously much water. They came to him, and awoke him, saying, ‘Master, master, we are dying!’ He awoke, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water, and they ceased, and it was calm. He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ Being afraid they marveled, saying one to another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the wind and the water, and they obey him?’”

What are these verses saying?

Jesus tells the disciples to get in the boat and head across the lake, then falls asleep while they're sailing. A storm hits, hard enough that experienced fishermen think they're about to die. They wake Jesus up in a panic, and he doesn't just calm the storm, he asks them a question first: "Where is your faith?" That question matters. These men were following Jesus' own instructions when the storm hit. They weren't off course or outside his will, the danger showed up in the middle of doing exactly what he told them to do. Jesus then speaks to the wind and the waves, and they obey instantly, which leaves the disciples more stunned by him than they were afraid of the storm.

How can this be applied?

It's tempting to think following Jesus should mean smooth water. This passage pushes back on that. The disciples got into a storm by obeying him, not by disobeying him. A slump, an injury, a tough stretch as a team, none of that is automatically proof you're

doing something wrong. Sometimes the storm just comes while you're in the boat he told you to get into. The real question isn't why is this happening, it's the same one Jesus asked: where is your faith right now? Is it in your circumstances calming down, or in the one who's with you in the boat either way? He's never caught off guard by the storm, even when he looks like he's asleep.

Connecting question: When things get rough this season, on the field or off it, do you tend to panic first and pray second, or has your faith grown enough to go to him first?

Prayer Points

- Ask God to grow your faith so your first move in a storm is toward him, not panic.
- Thank Jesus that he's not surprised or absent when hard things hit, even when it feels like it.
- Pray for a teammate who's in a storm right now, that they'd sense Jesus is in the boat with them.
- Ask for peace that doesn't depend on the circumstances changing first.
- Pray that this team would respond to adversity with more awe of God, not less.