



## Northland Christian Church Group Discussion Guide For the Week of February 27, 2022

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*Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. You do not have to answer every question. Pick the ones you think will be helpful. Remember, Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it. Growth takes time, love, good questions, & support.*

### Connect

- What was one defining moment in your life?
- What is the scariest storm or threatening condition you ever experienced?

### The Context

In verses 16 to 21 of John chapter 6, we see the miracle of Jesus walking on the water. In this short story, we see Jesus doing what only God can do by commanding the wind and the waves - a clear declaration that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and has all authority and power. We also see Jesus claim the name of God (I Am) for himself as he approaches the boat and says, "It is I; do not be afraid." As our culture moves farther and farther away from God, and with all that life throws at us in this challenging and falling world, it is reassuring to know that God is still in control of his creation. He is the one who commands the winds and waves of this world, and when we invite Jesus into our boat (into our life) we can know that we do not weather the storms of life alone. We live life with the one who has the power to overcome the storms.

### Engage the Bible

Read the passage and share Surprises, Takeaways, and Observations from:

#### **John 6:16-21** NIV

"When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, 17 where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. 18 A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. 19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were frightened. 20 But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." 21 Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading."

### Discuss

1. The account of Jesus walking on the water is recorded in three of the four gospels. Read [Matthew 14:22-33](#) and [Mark 6:45-52](#). How are the three accounts similar? How are they different?
2. What did Jesus say to the disciples that was meant to alleviate their fear? (John 6:20)
3. How can being reminded of who Jesus is, help you to overcome fear and doubt?

4. What do the disciples do when they realize that it is Jesus walking on the water? (John 6:21) What happens after Jesus gets into the boat? Is this a second miracle that takes place?
5. How has inviting Jesus into your boat (into your life) helped you weather the storms of life? How has inviting Jesus into your boat been a source of unexpected miracles or solutions in your life?
6. What fears have Jesus calmed in your life? What difference does God's presence make in your life as you go through trials?
7. How do you tend to respond when "storms" whip up in your life? What difference can this story make as you face those times?
8. Have you experienced a personal "rough sea" or fearful trial in your life? How did God make his presence known to you during that time?
9. What specific fears do you need to ask God to calm in your life?
10. What circumstances or events have caused you to search for Jesus?
11. Who in your life needs to be reminded that God is in control of this chaotic world?
12. Has fear ever been your response, even after you have just seen God provide and show his sufficiency in a prior situation? Why did you react that way?
13. When do you feel alone and in need of God's presence? When do you tend to leave Jesus behind and out of the picture in your life?
14. As the one who walks on water and commands the wind and waves, how should we respond to Jesus?
15. How can God be a source of strength and peace during times of chaos and confusion in your life?

### **Challenge**

Make a list of great things that Jesus has done, nourished, and provided for you.  
Share an example with someone each day this week.

**End Your Group Time in Prayer**