

## COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Spring 2025 - Signs - "The Glory of His Presence"

Monday, Mar. 30 - Sunday, Apr. 6 (Week 9)

*Pastor Mike's sermon focused on the theme of the "glory of Jesus' presence," as revealed through the account of Jesus walking on the sea in John's Gospel. He highlights that the miracles, referred to as "signs," are not merely acts of power but deeply significant displays meant to point to Jesus' divine nature and glory. Pastor Mike contrasts the prior miracle of feeding the 5,000 with this event, emphasizing the disciples' feelings of solitude and fear as they found themselves in the midst of a dark and stormy sea without Jesus. He draws parallels between their experience and our own moments of feeling God's absence in our lives, emphasizing that these feelings are part of the normal Christian journey. Throughout the sermon, Pastor Mike reassures us that though they may perceive God as distant or absent during trials, He is always near and will come to provide support and comfort. He reminds us of God's promise to never leave nor forsake us, grounded in Jesus' character and the sacrifice of the cross. By illustrating that Jesus can walk on the chaos of life, Pastor Mike invites listeners to trust in Jesus during turbulent times, affirming that hardships may be a means to experience deeper truths about God's presence and love. Ultimately, the message is one of hope, calling us to hold on to Christ, ensuring that as we navigate life's storms, we are never truly alone.*

- Share a time when you felt like you were in a stormy season of life. How did you seek or experience the presence of Jesus during that time and what was the outcome?
- Reflect on your current spiritual disciplines. Is there a discipline you feel you've been neglecting that might help you draw nearer to Jesus? How can we as a group support you in re-establishing this practice?
- Have you ever felt like Jesus was absent from your life despite your efforts to seek Him? How did you navigate that season, and what did you learn about your faith through it?
- The sermon mentioned secret sin as a barrier to experiencing Jesus' presence. Is there an area of your life where you feel you need to confess or seek accountability? How can we pray for you in this?
- How do you hold onto the promises of Jesus' presence during times of doubt or fear? Share a promise from Scripture that has been particularly meaningful to you in difficult times.

