



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 20

## JESUS CALMS THE STORM

*Jesus has all authority.*



**MONDAY**

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### **THE STORY: LUKE 8:22-25**

Jesus has authority over nature. While Jesus and the disciples traveled across the Sea of Galilee, a storm blew in quickly and threatened to capsize the boat. Afraid for their lives, the disciples awakened Jesus, who was sleeping. Jesus commanded the wind and waves to quiet, and immediately calm returned to the lake. In Colossians 1:16,17 Paul tells us that Jesus created all things, and that in Him all things hold together. Jesus created the earth and controls the earth. He later told His disciples, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me” (Matthew 28:18).

### **TALK ABOUT IT:**

What does it mean to have authority over something? (To have authority over someone or something means you have the power to command them, and they must follow.)

How can this story encourage us when we are afraid? (We can place our faith in Jesus in times of fear. Jesus is with all believers by His Spirit.)

### **PRAY:**

Thank Jesus for His amazing authority over all things, including our lives.



## TUESDAY

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### **THE STORY: LUKE 8:26-33**

Jesus has authority over demons. When Jesus and the disciples reached the other side of the lake, they were confronted by a demon-possessed man. (Matthew tells us in Matthew 8:28 that there were two demon-possessed men present. Luke tells the story of the more vocal of the two.) Not only did the demons know who Jesus was, they also knew they were subject to Jesus' authority. They didn't even begin to fight Jesus, instead pleading that He would not destroy them. Jesus gave the demons permission to enter a herd of pigs. Immediately they fled into the pigs, and the pigs rushed down a steep bank and were drowned.

### **TALK ABOUT IT:**

Can demons have power over people? (Clearly the demons that possessed the men in the story had power over the people they possessed.)

Do we need to fear demons? (Jesus' power is much greater than that of the demons. The demons wanted no part of Jesus. Once Jesus allowed them to enter the pigs, the demons fled from the man, entered the pigs, and kept running. We should be sobered by the power of demons but secure in the power of Christ. Only those who reject Christ need fear demons.)

### **PRAY:**

Thank God for His power over all, especially the forces of darkness and evil.



## WEDNESDAY WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?

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### **THE STORY: MATTHEW 8:23-29**

Why was it that the disciples could be assured of their safety in the midst of the raging storm? It was because the promised Messiah was in the boat with them. It is clear they did not yet understand who Jesus was. Jesus was no ordinary rabbi, no ordinary teacher, no ordinary prophet. Jesus was the Messiah, and He had come to save Israel from their sins.

When Jesus rebuked the wind and the water, the disciples questioned again, “Who is this?” Who is Jesus? That is the most important question anyone could ask. And getting the answer right is absolutely crucial. Jesus is the Son of God, who was fully man and fully God. As a man, He needed His rest, and so He fell asleep on the boat. As God, He held all things together by the power of His Word and was able to command the wind and the waves. It was not until after Jesus died, rose again, and then appeared to His disciples that they would begin to fully understand the answer to the question, “Who is this?”

When they reached the other side of the lake, Jesus was met by two demon-possessed men. Unlike the disciples, the demons needed no introduction to Jesus. One of the demons shouted out, calling Jesus, “Son of the Most High God” (Luke 8:28).

### **TALK ABOUT IT:**

What do we learn about Jesus from this passage of Scripture? (We learn quite a bit about Jesus’ power and authority. We learn that Jesus himself has the authority to rebuke the natural forces of the earth, and they obey. We also learn that the demons know who Jesus is - the Son of God.)

Does what we learn about Jesus suggest He is a mere prophet like those in the Old Testament, or does it suggest He is God? (Jesus’ direct command of the earth and the demons’ knowledge of his identity all point to Jesus’ divinity, telling us He is God.)

**PRAY:**

Thank Jesus for humbling Himself and for coming to us as a man that He might be our sacrifice.



**THURSDAY**

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**THE STORY: LUKE 8:34-39**

Jesus is God. The man who was freed from the demons wanted to travel with Jesus. But Jesus told him to return home. Imagine the delight of his family and friends when they saw him well again. There is an important exchange between Jesus and the man. Jesus told the man to tell his family how much God had done for him. Though Jesus did not directly say that He is God, He revealed it in His direction to the man. The man was not confused. He reported how much Jesus had done for him. In this passage, Jesus and God are used interchangeably because Jesus is God.

**TALK ABOUT IT**

Why is it important to recognize that Jesus is God? (Those who doubt Christianity or try to twist it nearly always say that Jesus is not God. Jesus was both fully God and fully man. Yet He did not boast of His deity but humbled himself, taking on the nature of a servant [see Philippians 2:6,7].)

**PRAY**

Pray a prayer of praise to Jesus, who is both God and man, who is creator over all, and who has authority over all.



**FRIDAY**  
**ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**

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**THE STORY: PSALM 23**

David calls the Lord his shepherd. Jesus is revealed to us as the Shepherd. David is satisfied in the Lord because He provides rest. Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). In Revelation 7:17 we read that one day the Lamb, who is Jesus, will lead us to springs of water and wipe every tear from our eyes. Although this passage does not claim to be a prophetic announcement of Jesus, it certainly points to Him. It is only because of the sacrifice of Jesus that David could walk on paths of righteousness. And it is only through Jesus that David could dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

How can this psalm of David comfort us today? (David trusted the Lord in his time of trouble. So can we. The Lord is also our shepherd.)

What advantage do we have over David? (When David wrote the psalm and trusted the Lord, he did not know how God would work salvation for him. We know the whole glorious, wonderful story of the Savior. If David could trust the Lord with the little he knew, we have no excuse for not trusting. All the mysteries of the gospel have been shown to us.)

**PRAY:**

Ask God to help you not take the gospel for granted. We have been entrusted with much. We need God’s help to always hold the gospel dear.