

# LIFE LESSONS – Making It Live

David Welch | “What to Do When You’re in a Storm” | Matthew 14:22-33 | July 30-31

## Storms

**How you ever been sent somewhere?** Maybe to the grocery store or you had to take a long trip. Whatever the reason for going, you had a purpose. There was a mission and a goal at the end. The same is true in our Christian walk. We have a purpose, a goal and that is to see our King, but along the way to share His promises.

**Read: Matthew 28:13. Discuss** how God helps us to accomplish these goals He has set for us. He does so by sending us into the storms. **Read: Matthew 14:22.** Why do you think He does that? In our weakness He is strong. How is our testimony to others our test? Can you share what storms are you facing? What areas of your life are you being tested? How can your test become your testimony? If you trust in Jesus it will.

## Spiritual Strength

**Where does your strength come from?** Ask a group of kindergartners and you might get answers like “when I eat my spinach I grow big muscles and grow strong.” Or you might hear something like “running a long way makes me stronger.” And how about this one, “what makes us stronger is how much weight we can lift off someone else.” Surely these children were talking about physical strength but what happens if you apply the same thinking to your spiritual walk? Discuss the following suggestions: “When I eat from the manna of God’s word I grow stronger.” **Read: Psalm 119:169-170.** How about “Today I will run with endurance the race that is before me, because I know that Heavenly Father is the Finisher of my faith.” **Read: Hebrews 12:1-2.** And how about this for your strength building, “today I grew stronger as I helped my brother find his way in the storm.” **Read: Galatians 6:2.** Discuss how we can grow stronger by feeding on Gods word, running the race with endurance and helping others to carry their burdens. Our strength comes from the Lord. Jesus will do that for you **Read: Psalm 121:2, re-visit Hebrews 12:2**

## Fear

**What are you afraid of?** Why do you fear? Why is that the question all believers should ask themselves? **Discuss:** If we believe that Christ is for us, then we must know that He is with us. **Discuss:** As Christ followers, we often time forget who our leader is. Why do you think we do that? Can you share if anything is happening in your life that keeps you from seeing the Light of Hope beckoning to you? Why do you think you might be alone? **Read: Matthew 28:20.** He is praying for you right now. Share how He sees your trouble even if no one else does.

## Intercession

**What does the word always mean to you?** For most it means constant or never ending. Read this verse and mark it in your Bible. “He (Jesus) is able to save completely those who come to God through Him because He always lives to intercede for them.” (**Hebrews 7:24, 25**) To intercede for someone, means to plead their case; to speak on their behalf when they can’t find the words. We know that Jesus is our strength but how do you know that He is your voice when you can’t find yours? What does that mean to you? How does that apply to your everyday circumstances? **Discuss** how you can trust that when the storms are crashing in? **Read: Heb. 13:5**

## First Step

**When the storms of life are engulfing you, what do you do?** Why is that so hard to do? Once there was a frail elderly lady sitting in the office of a young woman. The elderly lady needed help but she was afraid of taking the first step. The first step would mean she had to admit her weakness, her need for someone else to help her. The young woman could see her struggle and reached out her hand and said, “Don’t worry, have faith in me and I promise I will be there every step of the way. There is just need one thing I need for you to do. Something I can’t do it for you.” What was the elderly woman asked? The young woman’s words were soft and kind, “Have faith and trust me. Just take the first step; I will help you with the rest.” Jesus says the same thing to us. **Discuss** how you take the first step in faith. Share how you can be bold through Him? Stand up on your feet, He will walk with you, He will even carry you! **Read: Matthew 14:22-33. Discuss:** Know that in the storm, you will be tested. In your weakness He is strong.

*Written by Misty Miller*