

Lent devotions

READ:

Mark 4:35-41 ([Click to open link.](#))

REFLECT:

Have you ever watched a thunderstorm from a chair on your porch or out the window at night? The rain pouring down. The lightning flashing. Counting the seconds until you hear to the clap of thunder so you can know how far away the lighting is. It's quite an awesome experience. Then again, you're watching from a place of comfort and safety.

Think about that big storm. Now imagine being in the middle of a large lake in a small boat when it hits. The same winds that whip the trees around in your yard are pushing the boat off its course. The same lighting is flashing and the thunder is clapping all around you. Water is splashing over the sides of the boat. Everyone is looking around waiting and wondering what's going to happen. At least one person is curled up on the floor screaming, "WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE." Oh, and by the way, the guy you and your friends have all been watching perform miracle after miracle is taking a nap at the back of the boat. So you wake him up. He tells the storm to calm down and it does. But then he looks at you, as if he expected more from you and asks, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

So often in life, we have been witness to God's goodness and faithfulness many times prior to the storms. And yet, when the storms come, and we question God's love for us, even sometimes his presence in our lives. We wonder if he is going to make things better, or maybe we think God doesn't love us because of the storm we have to endure.

Have you ever found yourself in the middle of a storm, maybe not literal, but maybe an emotional one, a health situation, a relational storm. How can looking back on God's presence, healing, and goodness from your past, help you to get through the storms of the present?

RESPOND:

Write down a list of ways God has been good to you, has come through for you, has calmed the storms in your life in the past. Share one of them with a friend, a family member, or on a WE card of gratitude today. Post a photo of that card on social media today. #welent2019 #calmedmystorm