



Bible Life Group Discussion

How's the Wind Blowing? You Must Not Be Afraid – Discussion
(Matthew 8:23-27, 14:22-33)

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Pastor Robert L. Scott, Jr.

Discussion

1. **Message Point:** Why must you not be afraid? Because fear doesn't come from God.

*1 John 4:7-8, 18 Dear friends, let us love one another, **for love comes from God**. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ **Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.** ¹⁸ **There is no fear in love.** But perfect love drives out fear, **because fear has to do with punishment.** The one who fears is not made perfect in love. NIV*

*Romans 8:15-16 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, **so that you live in fear again**; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. **And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."** ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit **that we are God's children.** NIV*

Discussion Topic: *What is one of your fears? What is something that comes from God you can replace that fear with? Please elaborate.*

2. **Message Point:** When must you not be afraid? When Jesus is with you.

*Matthew 8:23-25 **Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him.** ²⁴ Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. **But Jesus was sleeping.** ²⁵ The disciples went and woke him, saying, "**Lord, save us! We're going to drown!**" NIV*

*Matthew 28:19-20 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. **And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**" NIV*

*Psalms 23:1-4 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³ he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, **I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.** NIV*

Discussion Topic: *How often during a typical day do you consider that Jesus is with you? Please elaborate.*

3. **Message Point:** When must you not be afraid? When you can exercise your own faith.

*Matthew 8:26-27 He replied, "**You of little faith, why are you so afraid?**" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. ²⁷ The men were amazed and asked, "**What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!**" NIV*

Topic to consider: *Can you think of a recent time you intentionally exercised your faith? Please elaborate.*

4. Message Point: When must you not be afraid? When you are doing exactly what Jesus said.

*Matthew 14:22-33 Immediately **Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side**, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, **buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it**. ²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ **When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.** ²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. **Don't be afraid.**" ²⁸ "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ **"Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.** ³⁰ **But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"** ³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. **"You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"** ³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." NIV*

Topic to consider: *Can you recall an instance when you were doing something God said to do, but you began to be fearful? If so, please elaborate about the fear you felt.*

Own Your Own (Points for Further Reflection)

A. Message Point: Why must you not be afraid? Because Jesus told you not to be afraid.

*John 14:1 **Do not let your hearts be troubled.** You believe in God; believe also in me. NIV*

*John 14:1 Jesus said to his disciples, **"Don't be worried!"** Have faith in God and have faith in me. CEV*

*John 14:1 Jesus said to his disciples, **'Do not be sad or afraid.** Believe in God, and also believe in me. EASY*

Topic to consider: *How can Jesus telling you not to be afraid inspire you to overcome fears? Please elaborate.*

B. Message Point: Why must you not be afraid? Because Jesus told us to be courageous.

*John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. **But take heart!** I have overcome the world." NIV*

*John 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, **but take courage**; I have overcome the world.” NASB*

*John 16:33 “I told you these things so that you can have peace in me. In this world you will have trouble, **but be brave!** I have defeated the world.” NCV*

Topic to consider: *What are you most fearful of?*

- a. Public speaking*
- b. What other people think about you*
- c. Animals or insects*
- d. The end of your life*
- e. Other _____*

- C. **Message Point:** When must you not be afraid? When you have thoughts of doubt about God’s love for you.

*Mark 4:35-38 That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” ³⁶ Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. ³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. **The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”** NIV*

Topic to consider: *Can you recall an instance you felt like God didn’t love you? If so, please elaborate.*

- D. **Message Point:** When must you not be afraid? When you see God’s power is greater than you thought.

*Mark 4:39-41 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. ⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” ⁴¹ **They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”** NIV*

Topic to consider: *Can you recall a moment in your life that God did something greater than you thought he would? If so, please elaborate.*