**THE ROCK #2**

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**STORMS HAPPEN FOR A REASON**

Call Study – Jason Park

*“Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid*.” **Matt. 14:27**

**22**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?” **Matt. 14:22-33**

**STORMS HAPPEN, BUT**

Is anyone in a storm?

**JESUS KNOWS**

**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. **Matt. 14:24-25**

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. **2**When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. **Is. 43:1b-2**

**GOD’S WORD ENCOURAGES**

**27**But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” **Matt. 14:27**

Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God’s promises to be fulfilled. **Rom. 15:4 NLT**

How has God’s word encouraged you during challenging times?

**STORMS FORCE US OUT OF OUR COMFORT ZONE**

**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. **Matt. 14:28-29**

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. **Heb. 11:8**

How has a storm pushed you out of your comfort zone?

**WE LEARN TO RELY ON 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?”

**STORMS HAVE A PURPOSE**

**6**In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. **7**These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. **8**Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, **9**for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. **1 Peter 1:6-9**

**STORMS ARE TEMPORARY TRIALS BUT REVEAL ETERNAL RELIEF**

**6**In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. **1** **Pet. 1:6**

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. **18**So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. **2 Cor. 4:17-18**

Have you ever struggled to believe the storm was temporary?

**STORMS PROVE OUR FAITH IS GENUINE**

**7**These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire. **1 Pet. 1:7a**

**3**Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4**perseverance,

character; and character, hope. **Rom. 5:3-5**

How has your faith grown stronger after being challenged?

**PREPARE US FOR ETERNAL GLORY**

So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. **1 Pet. 1:7b**

**18**Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. **19**For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. **Rom. 8:18**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

Do you have any other observations?

How can we pray for you?

**CHRONOLOGICAL READING PLAN FOR JULY**

184. 2 Kings 5-8 185. 2 Kings 9-11 186. 2 Kings 12-13; 2 Chronicles 24 187. 2 Kings 14; 2 Chronicles 25 188. Jonah  
189. 2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 26 190. Isaiah 1-4 191. Isaiah 5-8 192. Amos 1-5 193. Amos 6-9  
194. 2 Chronicles 27; Isaiah 9-12 195. Micah 196. 2 Chronicles 28; 2 Kings 16-17 197. Isaiah 13-17 198. Isaiah 18-22  
199. Isaiah 23-27 200. 2 Kings 18; 2 Chronicles 29-31; Psalm 48 201. Hosea 1-7 202. Hosea 8-14 203. Isaiah 28-30  
204. Isaiah 31-34 205. Isaiah 35-36 206. Isaiah 37-39; Psalm 76 207. Isaiah 40-43 208. Isaiah 44-48

209. 2 Kings 19; Psalms 46, 80, 135 210. Isaiah 49-53 211. Isaiah 54-58 212. Isaiah 59-63 213. Isaiah 64-66