

## Peace, be still – the storms of life

1. Without God in our lives, where do we go in order to try and satisfy our deepest human needs and desires (eg - security, hope, love, peace, purpose)? Can some in the group give some examples of where, before they became Christians, they tended to look to satisfy their deepest human needs?

2. Can people give some examples of where they have found themselves either before becoming a Christian or after, putting their faith and hope in things that have proved unreliable?

### ***Read Matthew 7:24-27 and then 8:23-27***

Jesus ***promises the disciples in Matthew 7:24-27*** that the the storms of life will come. ***In 8:23 -27 the storm hits.***

3. On the shore, before the boat set off, what has Jesus said what in 8:18 (see also Luke 8:22)?

4. Instead of putting their faith in Jesus' words, when the storm hit, what did the disciples believe in more?

5. Even in the middle of the storm Jesus gets up and calms it. How does he do it? What should **we** be learning here?

6. There is hope for us before the storm (Matthew 7:24-27, 8:18) and during it (8:26). What should we be doing before the storm when we are at peace; how should we be preparing?

Can some in the group share their approach to studying the bible. What have they found useful?

7. Is there any hope for us in Matthew 8:23-27, even if we are caught out by the storm? What is that hope?

8. Can people give some examples where relying on the word of God in a crisis has made a powerful difference on their ability to cope in the storms of life?