1. **Luke 8:22-23**
* Who is present in this story?
* What are they doing?
* **Exodus 14:21-28, Deuteronomy 4:9-14, Isaiah 51:10**
* What did crossing the water mean for the people in **Exodus**?
* What did crossing the water mean for the people in **Deuteronomy**?
* Reflect on **Isaiah** and share a thought.
* What do you think crossing to the “other side of the lake” in **Luke** represents?
* During this crossing, what did Jesus do?
* What do you think the “squall”, a violent wind and storm during their journey with the Lord, represents in our lives and the apostles, considering your answer for the previous question?
1. **Luke 8:24-25**
* **Psalms 35:23, Psalm 44:24-27**
* What does the **Psalmist** ask of God in both of these readings from the **Psalms**?
* What do the disciples ask of Jesus in the **Gospel of Luke**?
* What is similar and what is different about the situation in the **Psalms** vs **Luke**?
* According to the **Gospel of Luke**, how did Jesus save the apostles?
* **Psalms 107:23-30**
* According to the **Psalms**, what word was used to describe how the storm was stopped and who stopped the storm?
* What similarity do you notice between the **Psalm** and the **Gospel of Luke**?
* **Sirach 39:16-19**
* According to **Sirach** what simple action from God can “still the waters as in a flask”?
* **Genesis 1:3**
* In **Genesis** how does God create light?
* Do you see a pattern between the three **Old Testament** readings, what is it?
* What do you think the **New Testament** and **Old Testament** Readings reveal about who Jesus Christ is?
* What does Jesus ask the apostles near the end of the story?
* Considering what some have believed the “squall” to represent in our lives earlier, and Jesus’ question to the apostles, what does this say to you?
* **St. Ambrose** (339 AD – 397 AD) *Exposition of The Gospel of Luke 6.39-43*

“Nor could anyone traverse this world without Christ, when the **storms of worldly temptations often distress even those to whom the Lord is present**. And husbandry is preserved among the Apostles, so that you observe that **none can depart from this course of life without temptation**, because the exercise of faith is temptation. So, we are **subject to the storms of spiritual wickedness**, but let us like ever watchful sailors **rouse the pilot**. Truly, even they are also in the habit of being **endangered**. Then, for what pilot am I to ask? Him indeed who would not be enslaved to, but command the winds, of whom it is written, ‘But He, arising, **rebuked the wind**’. Why is He ‘Arising’? Because he was resting, but He rested in the sleep of His body, since He was intent on the mystery of His Godhead, for where Wisdom is, **there is the Word**, and nothing comes to pass without the Word, nothing without foresight. You have, above, that “He continued all night in prayer’, why would He here, sleep amid the storm? But the security of authority is expressed, because **He alone rested without fear when all were afraid**. Then, He says, ‘**Why are you fearful, Oh you of little faith**?’ And those who were afraid when Christ was present are fittingly reproved when, indeed, **one who cleaves to Him cannot perish**. Thus, He strengthened faith, He infused tranquility, He commanded the wind to cease, not the north wind, nor the southwest wind, but that wind, indeed, to which it was said by Michael the Archangel in the Epistle of Jude, ‘The Lord command thee’. Hence, also St. Matthew says, ‘He commanded the wind and the sea’. And that He would deign to restrain its tempestuous blasts upon us, **so that tranquility poured forth upon a stormy life may remove the fear** of shipwreck! Although He may not now sleep in the sleep of His Body, let us be aware lest He sleep for us and rest in the sleep of our body.”

* **St. Cyril of Alexandria** (378 AD – 444 AD) *Commentary on Luke Sermon 43*

”When therefore, Christ had **calmed the violent windy storm**, He also **changed into confidence the faith of the holy disciples**, which had been **shaken** along with the ship, no longer permitting it to be in doubt. And wrought in them, so to speak, **a calm, smoothing the waves of their weak faith**. For He said, ‘**Where is your faith?**’ and another evangelist, however, affirms of Him, that He said, “**Why are your fearful, O you of little faith**?’ For when the **fear of death expectedly befalls**, it troubles sometimes **even a well-established mind**, and exposes it to the **blame of littleness of faith**. And such also is the effect of **any other trouble too great to board upon those who are tried by it**. For this reason, there once drew near certain unto Christ, and said ‘Increase our faith.’ For the man who is still exposed to blame for littleness of faith falls short of him who is perfect in faith. For just as gold is tried in the fire, so also is **faith by temptations**. But the mind of man is weak, and altogether in need of strength and help from above, in order that it may be well with him, and that he may be able to maintain a steadfast course, and be strong saying, ‘**Without Me you can do nothing**.’ And the wise Paul also confesses the same, where he writes, “**I am able to do all things through Christ, that strengthens me**.’”

* Please share something that was meaningful to you in today’s lesson with the group.