

Priming the Pump

1. Begin by reading the Scripture for this week's message, Matthew 8:23-27
2. Can you think of a time when you "encountered" Jesus in some turmoil in your life, after which you marveled at how He delivered you from the situation? Have you seen this kind of encounter in the life of someone else, a friend or family member, and were able to come alongside them at that time?

Getting into the Word

3. Wind and storms are a frequent theme in the Gospels, representing difficulty and opposition that is far beyond our ability to avoid or control. Read the other times Matthew mentions wind and storms. In each reading, note down some thoughts on what the storm represents in that passage and how the people of God are to respond to it. What is each passage teaching us today?
 - a. Matthew 7:24-27
 - b. Matthew 8:23-27 (this week's sermon)
 - c. Matthew 11:7-15
 - d. Matthew 14:22-33

Digging Deeper

4. This week's sermon discussed the tension between the fears of the world and the fear of the Lord. God is our loving Father and yet He is also a consuming fire before which no unrighteousness can stand. Read the following passages and consider the Scriptural imagery of serving our Father with fear. Reflecting on your own day to day life, are you serving Him with this kind of fear? Be vulnerable with yourself and pray over these things. (Psalm 2:10-12; Mark 5:33; Philippians 2:12-13; Hebrews 12:28-29)