

# LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

## I AM WEEK 1



The best way to know about someone is to let them tell you who they are. We may think we know who Jesus is, but have we let him tell us in his own words? What might happen if we made space for Jesus to speak for himself? There are seven times when Jesus directly told his disciples who he was. In these "I am" statements, he shared with them what it meant to follow him, his heart for others, and how his followers can strengthen their relationships with him and with God. In this four-week series, we'll dive into Jesus' words about himself to learn how his words can reshape our lives today. Through what Jesus says, we'll learn that **Jesus is love, is truth, is always with us, and is our savior.**

### THIS WEEK

## BIG IDEA

Jesus cares for you.

## BIBLE

Mark 4:35-41; Mark 5

### PREDISCUSSION

1. What is the best snack that can be purchased at a gas station or a corner store?
2. Who is someone in your life that makes you feel like they care about you? Encourage students to share a story of a time that person made them feel extremely cared for. Point out to them the elements of care

### DISCUSSION

3. **Get one of your students to read Mark 4:35-41 aloud (pg. 998).** *\*For Middle School you could WATCH Jesus Calms the Storm by Saddleback Kids to get a visual before reading the verses. It's funny.*
4. Have you ever felt compelled by God to do something because you heard in a sermon or read it in the Bible?
5. In what ways did God compel you? Did you feel uncomfortable when you got a sense of what God wanted you to do?
6. WATCH minute 9:00-11:45 of Monster Storm at the Sea of Galilee Where Jesus Walked by Sergio and Rhonda.
7. How do you think the disciples felt when the seas, the wind, and the storm surrounded their boat?
8. Why do you think that Jesus was sleeping while the storm was happening?
9. **Split your LifeGroup into three groups.** One person from their group will have to summarize their story. Have one group read and discuss Mark 5:1-20, another read Mark 5:21-24; 35-43, and the last to read Mark 5:24-34
10. In your story, what did Jesus' healing or miracle show that he has the greater power over (i.e., sickness, death etc.)?
11. In the boat, the disciples asked each other, "Who is this man, that the wind and the seas obey him?" What does your group's story say about who Jesus is?

### CLOSING

12. **Ask for a praise request.** What is one thing you heard today about Jesus that makes you want to praise him? Have each person pray and say the praise they came up with aloud, and you close in prayer.

DISMISS TO STUDENT COMMONS **(DO NOT LET STUDENTS GO TO THE SECOND FLOOR LANDING BEHIND THE MAIN WORSHIP CENTER BALCONY).**

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# LIFEGROUP TIPS AND REMINDERS

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- Create meaningful conversation in your group time. Adjust the questions as needed for your context. Feel free to add more. Don't just ask a question and move on to the next in a few seconds. LifeGroup time is designed to allow for more conversations about the subject matter and allow you to help students come up with their own answers.
- Dive into the discussion guide as soon as possible while the message from student worship is fresh on the student's minds. Save prayer requests, highs/lowes, and weekend stories for the end of group time.
- Re-read the Scripture or even add supportive verses to help with discussion. Read the message outline to give more context to your discussion guide questions.
- Mine for answers. Don't be satisfied with just one student answering or their "typical churchy response." Be comfortable asking why or having a student explain their answer for more clarity.
- Be comfortable with silence after asking a question. **PLEASE DON'T ANSWER THE QUESTIONS FOR THEM.** Allow time for students to give their answers, as this usually opens the door for others to participate.
- Don't dismiss students into the atrium! Dismiss them to the student commons and hang out with them there. Remember the 15-minute rule – 15 minutes before and after group time are some of the best times to have meaningful conversations with your students.
- Try to keep your students in LG the whole time. They will have plenty of time to go to the bathroom before LGs. If a bathroom break is necessary, dismiss them to the bathrooms in the downstairs student commons – **NOT THE ADULT LIFEGROUP BATHROOMS ON THE 2ND FLOOR.**

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## MAY GOAL

Don't forget the Four F's of Leadership!

***FOLLOW UP, FAMILY CONNECTION, FELLOWSHIP+, & FAITH CONVERSATIONS***

**This Month- FAITH CONVERSATIONS:** Plan to have a short or long faith conversation with your students. Discuss with your co-leaders which leader is talking to which student. LifeGroup Leaders can come before or after student worship, OR you can go before or after ReFuel. I would buy them a coffee or a snack, ask the question at one of our café tables, and say something like, "Hey Jeff, I just wanted to check in with you to see how LifeGroup is going. I also wanted to ask you about your relationship with Jesus."