

## AF A9 BIBLE STUDY: “Life’s Voyages with Jesus” Luke 8 & John 6

Scripture of Lesson: Luke’s Gospel 8: 22-25; Matt 8:23-27; Matt 14:22-33; John 6: 15-21

### 1. Two voyages across the Sea of Galilee

a. The first voyage: Luke 8:22-25; Matt 12:46-50; Mark 3:31-35

- i. This voyage was made to cross the Sea of Galilee from the west coast to the east, towards the country of the Gergesenes [Luke 8:27] during the summer of the Lord’s first year of public ministry. He healed two people possessed of demons and came back to Capernaum. Thus, this voyage was made solely to save these two demon-possessed persons.
- ii. The voyage was far from smooth. A great storm in the sea buffeted the ship so that the disciples felt their lives were threatened. The ship took in much water and they were in jeopardy while the Lord was sleeping [8:23].
- iii. The disciples woke up their master and called out for help, “Master, Master, we are about to die.”
- iv. The Lord rose up, rebuked the wind and the waves; they ceased and there was a calm [8:24].
- v. The Lord rebuked them, “Where is your faith?” [8:25]
- vi. The disciples did not answer but wondered, “Who is this that the wind and the waves of the sea obey His commands?” [8:25]

b. The second voyage: Matt 14:22-27, Mark: 6: 45-52, John 6:15-21

- i. This night voyage made by the disciples alone occurred about a year after the first voyage, from the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee towards Capernaum after the miracle of feeding the five thousand. The crowd, having seen the power of Jesus to feed even a great multitude through a miracle, wanted to make him their king. Jesus hurriedly sent the disciples onto a ship on this voyage and went to a mountain alone to pray. [John 6:15; Mark 6:46]
- ii. The wind and waves were contrary and the disciples struggled for a number of hours to make progress, but were having a difficulty through the night. [John 6:17-18; Matt: 14:24-25]
- iii. The Lord walked to them over the water; Peter walked towards the Lord, fell into the water and was saved by the Lord; when they entered the ship, the wind stopped. [Matt 14:26-32]
- iv. The disciples worshipped the Lord, “Truly You are the Son of God.” [Matt 14:33]
- v. Immediately the ship reached the destination shore. [John 6:21]

### 2. What the voyages taught the disciples

a. Lesson 1: Our life’s voyage may not be smooth even when we have the Lord with us.

The disciples perhaps felt that the Lord did not care about them. On the contrary, the Lord wanted them to learn some important lessons from this voyage.

b. Lesson 2: The disciples learned to have complete trust/ faith in their Lord.

Even during life's turmoil Lord Jesus has our welfare in His heart and wants to bring true peace of heart. God expects us to have faith in His power to save and faith in His love for us.

c. Lesson 3: The disciples learned that Jesus is the Son of God and the Lord of all creation.

*For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. [Col. 1: 16-17]*

*Discussion topics:*

- 1. What other lessons did the disciples learn from these two voyages?*
- 2. How did you overcome your life's troubles? Please share your experiences.*