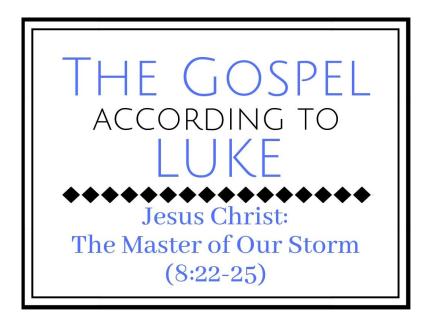
## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO \*\*\*\*\* Jesus Christ:

The Master of Our Storm (8:22-25)



#### **BIG IDEA:**

God allows trials in our lives for our spiritual wholeness.

#### The Blueprint of a Storm

- Jesus invites His disciples to take a boat across the Sea of Galilee. (8:22-23a)
- A "windstorm" swiftly arises and brings them into a physically perilous storm. (8:23b)
- The disciples frantically awake Jesus and He commands the storm to stop. (8:23b-24)
- Jesus asks the disciples "where" their faith is. (8:25a)
- The disciples' fear turns to awe and amazement. (8:25b)

# 5 Ways God Uses Storms for Our Spiritual Wholeness:

- 1. To expose the <u>weaknesses</u> in our faith.
- 2. To strengthen the core fundamentals of our faith.
- 3. To **refine** the <u>focus</u> of our faith.
- 4. To magnify His glory, power & grace in our hearts & minds.
- 5. To point others to Jesus Christ through our actions of faith.

#### **Observations**

- 8:22 Jesus never makes a mistake as He leads and guides us.
- 8:23a A season of calm can often precede a storm.
- 8:23b Storms can often take us by surprise with their swift arrival.
- 8:24 Jesus is always with us in the middle of our storm.
- 8:25a We must learn to seek Jesus' guidance in faith rather than in fear or doubt.
- 8:25b Jesus allows storms to enter our lives for our spiritual wholeness and sanctification.

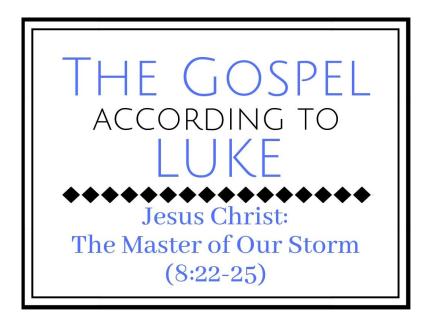
## **Application**

1. We must learn to see storms and trials as God's *grace* in action. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

2. We must comfort, admonish, and help one another as we learn together to see storms and trials as God's *grace* in action. (*Hebrews 10:23-25*)

## **Application**

- 3. When storms of life come (or you see them approaching on the horizon), ask God to use this storm to accomplish these 5 things in your life for His glory:
- Ask God to expose any weaknesses in your faith.
- Ask God to strengthen the core fundamentals of your faith.
- Ask God to refine the focus of your faith.
- Ask God to magnify His glory, power, & grace in your heart & mind.
- Ask God to use your testimony of faith to point others to Jesus Christ.



#### **BIG IDEA:**

God allows trials in our lives for our spiritual wholeness.