**HEBREWS 12:1-2(NLTSE)** "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by **keeping our eyes on Jesus**, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honour beside God's throne"

- <u>Recap:</u> last week we spoke about the humanity of Jesus and how He totally understands our weaknesses and temptations.
- He understands because Jesus went through every possible challenge that humans face and more, He has compassion for us in our weaknesses.
- This week we'll discuss focusing on God's word and call on our lives.

## All we have is the word of God and all we'll need is the word of God, but it must be mixed with faith

## MARK 4:35-41(NLT)

Some aspects to consider from this passage:

- 1. Jesus has a specific purpose and destination for our lives: **vs35** "Let's cross to the other side of the lake" With God, nothing is for nothing or "just because".
- 2. Jesus has already shown us by the example of His lifestyle and spoken words, what to do: vs36 He was already in the boat
- 3. We'll have to go against the norm of a corrupt world: v36 leaving the crowds behind
- 4. Severe troubles will come: **vs 37** soon a fierce storm arose. Even though they were doing exactly what Jesus told them to do.
- 5. Everything we depend on will be tested to the max. The boat was fine, until it wasn't anymore: <u>vs37</u> High waves began to break into the boat until it was nearly full of water.
- 6. Have you let Jesus "sleep" in your life, by not having intimate fellowship with Him? vs38 Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat
- 7. Don't believe satan's lies about God: **vs38** "don't you even care that we're going to drown?"

## All we have is the word of God and all we'll need is the word of God, but it must be mixed with faith:

**HEBREWS 4:2(NKJV)** For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it

## **CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

- 1. What does the reality and presence of storms, tell us about life?
- 2. What is the significance of Jesus telling the disciples to go to the other side? (see Mark 4:35)
- 3. What storms are you facing and what word from God are you trusting in? Pray with each other about these issues