

# CHRISTMAS IS COMING

## CELL DISCUSSION GUIDE

Leader's Copy



### SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Reflect on the faithfulness of God through the storms of life
2. Choose to live by faith, to trust and obey God.

### SERMON SUMMARY

We live in uncertain times and storms in life will hit us unexpectedly. God is faithful and will see us through these storms as we trust in Him. Through these storms, we can know God more and experience the depth of His love for us.

### SERMON RECAP

Pastor Vincent preached from [Mark 4:35-41](#). Jesus wanted to go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee with his disciples. During the journey, they encountered a storm while Jesus was sleeping. When Jesus awoke to a group of disciples who questioned His concern for their situation, He rebuked the wind and said to the sea to be still, and there was a great calm. The disciples were left astonished when they realised that even the wind and the sea obeyed Him. The details provided in the passage proves that it is an eyewitness account and not a legend.

Through this eyewitness account, we are reminded to trust in Jesus even in the storms of life. The storms of life can hit unexpectedly, and we will encounter storms even when walking in obedience to God. The storms we face in life are not always punishments from God for our disobedience. Therefore, it is important for us to fix our eyes on Jesus through the storm.

### *Sermon Details*

Date

10 Dec 2023

Topic

Not Such A Wonderful Life

Scripture

Mark 4:35-41

Speaker

Ps Vincent Lun,  
*Kingdom Community Church*



Through this passage, one of the questions to revisit is our understanding of Jesus. Who then is this Jesus that even the wind and sea obey Him? Let us acknowledge the awesome power of Jesus in our lives and circumstances. The other question to revisit is if we acknowledge that Jesus genuinely cares for us even in the midst of the storms we face. In spite of our circumstances, we can find trust and rest in the sovereignty of our God.

As we look the passage, we realise that Jesus had told His disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Though we face storms, with Christ, we can get to "the other side". The question is – Is He on the boat we are on? May we fix our eyes on Jesus, trust Him wholeheartedly and obey Him readily.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share a time where you faced a storm in your life. This can be a current event. How did it affect you and your relationship with God and with others? What were the lessons you learnt as you navigated through storm?

### **Leader's Notes**

*This is a relate and reflect question for members to share about a time they experienced a storm in their life. This question aims to provide members an opportunity to share the lessons they learnt about God through such times, and to encourage each other to press on in difficult times.*

### **Transition**

*God is faithful and is with us through the storms.*

2. Read [Mark 4:35-41](#). Share what in the passage spoke to you. Also consider how this passage encourages you to trust in God through the storms in your life.

### **Leader's Notes**

*This is a recap and relate question. Leaders can invite members to read the passage slowly or a few times before sharing their thoughts and reflections. The aim of the question is to allow members to know that we can trust in God though storms may be scary and though we will have doubts. If time permits, leaders can also invite members to share on what is their understanding of trusting God and how they apply it in their everyday lives.*

### **Transition**

*We can rest in the assurance of God's character as we learn to live by faith and not by sight.*

3. In small groups, share with your group an area of your life where you would like to respond in faith instead of fear.

### **Leader's Notes**

*Members can share in smaller groups about an area of life to commit to God as they seek to trust God in faith instead of moving in fear.*

### **Closing**

*Life will be an ongoing journey of trusting God through the storms, however we can take heart that He is faithful and will see us through it for His glory.*

# PRAYER



Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

## 1. Sermon Application

- Pray for us to continue to trust in God wholeheartedly in the good and bad
- Pray for God's peace, presence and wisdom through the storms we are facing.
- Thank God for seeing us through the storms
- Pray for our loved ones who have yet to know Jesus

## 2. RiverLife

- Pray that as we enter into a season of Christmas outreach, that RiverLifers will dare to play their part in living out the Great Commission.
- Pray for those of us who are on mission trips in the nations at the moment.

## 3. World

- Continue to pray for the conflict in the Gaza Strip between Israel and Hamas - for both nations to reach a ceasefire resolution.
- Pray for the situation in Northern Myanmar where 50,000 civilians are displaced as a result of war.
- Pray for the situation in China where Beijing hospitals have a sudden surge in respiratory illnesses among children.
- Pray for the flood situation in Chennai, India where thousands are stranded.
- Continue to pray for the Russia-Ukraine war and the avoidance of using nuclear weapons.

## 4. Opportunities for Outreach

- Ask the Lord to bless us as we step out to reach a pre-believer this Christmas.
- Ask the Lord to grant you opportunities to reach out to a non-believing loved one, friend, or colleague this week as we seek to mature in Christlikeness.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Digital Bulletin: [rlc.sg/bulletin](https://rlc.sg/bulletin)

## 1. Christmas Is Coming!

This December, gather with us in God's presence and receive His gift of love at our Christmas services!

### a. English Adult Christmas Services

Sundays | 10, 17, 24 Dec

9-11am | Worship Centre (Level 3)

There will be prayer for healing on Sun, 17 & 24 Dec. Do invite anyone who needs a healing touch from God.

More info: [rlc.sg/christmas2023](https://rlc.sg/christmas2023)

### b. Christmas Gift Market

A curated line-up of homegrown businesses offering handcrafted and meaningful gifts for this festive season!

Sundays | 10 & 17 Dec

From 11.15am

RiverLife Atrium (Level 1)

### c. Celebration @ Atrium

A time for the RiverLife family to celebrate and connect with newcomers and one another over light refreshments!

## 2. New Year's Eve Services.

### a. English Adult New Year's Eve Service

9am | Worship Centre (Level 3)

Let's all gather on the morning of 31 Dec in our 'Make Us One' t-shirts! If you do not already have one, you may wish to purchase the t-shirt at our Christmas Gift Market on Sundays, 10 & 17 Dec at \$5 each. While stocks last.

## **b. Bilingual Watchnight Service**

From 9pm | Victory Chapel (Level 1)

Combined with Chinese Ministry and conducted in English & Mandarin

Session 1: 9pm to 12.30am

Supper: 12.30am to 1.30am

Session 2: 1.30am to 6am

We will come together as a spiritual family to enter the new year in the Lord's presence with worship and prayer. Feel free to bring your sleeping bags for resting!

## **3. Weekly Prayer Gatherings**

As the year comes to an end, our prayer gatherings will pause for a few weeks as we spend time with the Lord and our loved ones.

### **a. Revive Nights on Wednesday**

*No gathering on 20, 27 Dec 2023 & 3 Jan 2024*

### **b. RiverLife Prayer Room on Tuesday**

*No gathering on 19 & 26 Dec 2023*

## **4. The RiverLife Welcome Lunch**

Sun, 21 Jan 2024 | 11.30am-1pm

Faith Chapel (Level 2)

Relationships matter to us because church is family. If you are new to RiverLife, come join us for this Welcome Lunch so that we can get to know one another better. You'll get to meet fellow RiverLifers as well as our staff team members too. This session is for those who have not attended a Welcome Lunch previously. Due to capacity constraints, each guest may be accompanied by up to two family members or friends (including their host).

RSVP online: [rlc.sg/welcomelunch](http://rlc.sg/welcomelunch)

# CALENDAR

## 1. YA Gatherings (For Young Adults in their 20s).

First Saturday Every Month, 5pm-8.30pm Victory Chapel (Level 1). The YA Gathering is a space where young adults can get together to connect and build community. This gathering is made up of two components – Community Conversations & Communal Dinner – both with a focus on relationship building and life conversations. If you are currently in a cell, register your attendance with your cell leader. If you are currently not in a cell, do register online: [rlc.sg/YAgathering-apr-reg](http://rlc.sg/YAgathering-apr-reg).

## 2. RiverLife Prayer Meetings.

- RiverLife Prayer Room. Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel.
- RiverLife Revive Nights. Wed, 8pm – 9.30pm, Victory Chapel (Livestream: [rlc.sg/revivenights](http://rlc.sg/revivenights)).

# MINISTRIES & OPPORTUNITIES

## 1. The 9M Ministry.

This ministry provides prayer support for expectant mothers on their 9-month journey of pregnancy. Sisters-in-Christ who are fellow RiverLifers are assigned as Prayer Buddies to walk alongside mums who sign up to receive prayer support.

- Receive Prayer Support: [rlc.sg/9m](http://rlc.sg/9m)
- Provide Prayer Support: [rlc.sg/serve](http://rlc.sg/serve)

## 2. Missions Microsite.

Discover how you can go, give and pray for the nations. Let's make a difference in the nations together! For more information, visit [rlc.sg/missions](http://rlc.sg/missions).

## 3. RiverLife Cares Opportunities.

Enquiries/Registration: <http://rlc.sg/serve-rlcar>

## 4. Prayer Ministry.

If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. fear, worry, etc), you can sign up for RLC's RTF ministry: <https://bit.ly/rlcrtf>

# RESOURCES & CONNECTING WITH US

## 1. Bible Reading Plan.

The church has provided 3 undated Bible Reading plans that will serve as a resource for those who wish to follow a Bible Reading plan. Link: [rlc.sg/brp](http://rlc.sg/brp)

- 2 Year Chronological Bible Reading Plan.
- 3 Year Bible Reading Schedule (Alternating readings between Old and New Testament passages)
- Redemptive Historical Bible Reading Plan (At your own pace, focusing on the redemption story)

## 2. RiverLife Podcast.

The RiverLife Podcast allows you to listen to RiverLife content anytime, anywhere! The link to go to is [rlc.sg/podcast](http://rlc.sg/podcast) or simply search 'The RiverLife Podcast' on Spotify.

## 3. Spiritual Growth Resources.

We have put together a curated list of recommended resources for the RiverLife family. These resources (books, articles, podcasts and videos) are recommendations for the various spiritual growth stages as you seek to grow deeper in the River of God this year. You can access them at [rlc.sg/resource](http://rlc.sg/resource). This list will be continually populated throughout the year.

## 4. Testimony.

If you have a testimony to share, you can write to us at [stories@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:stories@riverlife.org.sg) to share with us your testimony as an encouragement to others.

## 5. Stay Connected with RLC.

Follow us to stay updated on latest church news and happenings.

- WhatsApp Broadcast: [Subscribe Here](#)
- Telegram Channel: [t.me/RiverLifeChurch](https://t.me/RiverLifeChurch)
- Facebook & Instagram: [@riverlifechurchsg](#)

# GIVING LINKS & QR CODES



## Online Giving for Tithes & Offering

Contribute your tithes and offering digitally:

### 1. PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200100806DSCB.

### 2. Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account: DBS Autosave 029-902431-0  
Bank Code: 7171 / Branch Code: 029



## Online Giving to Missions

### 1. PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200100806DTNO.

### 2. Interbank Transfer

UOB Account 450-309634-4

Kindly indicate "Missions" in your transaction reference.





## Online Giving to RiverLife Community Services

### 1. PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200711586WDON

