

# Community Group Leader Guide

For the Week Of 3.17.24

Sermon Series: The Beauty of Jesus

Watch the Leader Video and find all your resources online at

<https://clifec.com/community-group-resources/>

Need to watch the sermon? Check out our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@CommunityLifeChurch>

Painting: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Storm\\_on\\_the\\_Sea\\_of\\_Galilee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Storm_on_the_Sea_of_Galilee)

## Announcements:

Easter Promotion: This week, we distributed invitation cards for our Easter services. If you're praying for friends and family regarding their salvation, this is a perfect opportunity to invite them to church. Consider discussing with your group which service everyone plans to attend; perhaps suggest attending the Saturday service if available at your campus.

## Icebreaker:

Daylight Saving Time has come and gone! Everyone's sleep is finally adjusting! But what if you didn't have to sleep? What would you do with all the extra time?

## Quick Review:

We're two weeks deep in a series called 'The Beauty of Jesus'. In this series we're looking at the awe-inspiring character of Jesus and what exactly makes him so compelling. In week one, we learned how all of creation was testifying to Jesus as creator and how all of the beauty around us is derivative of the divine! The takeaway: to simply behold Him for who He is! Last week's sermon was an invitation to view Jesus as confident, authoritative, purposeful, and present. Despite the circumstances that are around us today, Jesus is still in control!

## Make It Personal:

1. Reflecting on the story of Jesus calming the storm, have you ever experienced a situation where it felt like Jesus was asleep amidst your chaos? How did you respond?
2. In times of struggle and suffering, what are some of the difficult questions that you find yourself asking? Is it ever wrong to ask those sorts of questions?

## Go Deeper:

1. **Read Mark 4:35-41** together. What stands out? What observations can you make about the disciples? What observations can you make about Jesus?
2. How can the imagery of Jesus sleeping during the storm provide comfort or challenge to us in our own struggles?
3. Consider the disciples' response to Jesus calming the storm. How does their fear and awe resonate with your own experiences of encountering God's power?
4. How do you reconcile the presence of suffering and storms in the lives of believers with the promise of God's power and protection?

## Action Steps:

1. **Cry out to God:** If you've found yourself in a place in life where things have felt out of control and beyond your ability to handle them – cry out to God! Be honest with your struggles and allow Him to help you right where you're at.
2. **Trust His Plan:** Simple – but not easy! Practice trusting God this week with those difficult situations in your life. Allow His Plan to bring yo
3. **Read further:** Dive into other stories within the scripture to encourage you about God's faithfulness. For example, the very next chapter in Mark 5 contains the story about a desperate father seeking Jesus to heal his daughter and a woman who was suffering from a sickness that had lasted over a decade. In each of these stores, Jesus shows himself as confident, authoritative, purposeful, and present.

## Prayer Requests:

1. Pray for our Easter services! That God would stir the hearts of believers and that the lost would be reached with the Gospel.
2. Pray for Bloom, our women's conference! Pray that God would use it to encourage the hearts of women in our churches and beyond.

Feel free to use this guide to facilitate discussion in your community group. Modify the questions as you see fit.