

CELL GROUP DISCUSSION STARTERS

OPENING QUESTION

1. What is faith?

CONTENT EXPLANATION

Read Luke 8:22-56

2. What do we learn from each of these stories?
3. What is the overall message of these four stories together?
 - a. Are we meant to seek similar experiences and miracles as Christians?
 - b. Who/what do people fear at the beginning of each story? How does that change by the end?
 - c. The default setting of humans is 'faith in myself' = if I am in control everything will be fine. Why is this so dangerous?
4. Where are things out of control in your life – circumstances, people, sickness, death?

CONTENT APPLICATION

5. What makes you feel angry or frustrated? Is there something too important to me? Something I am telling myself I have to have? Is that why I am frustrated or angry – because I am being blocked from having something I think is a necessity when it is not? Share what that might be.
6. What makes you feel fearful, fret or worried? Is there something too important to me? Something I am telling myself I have to have? Is that why I am so scared – because something is being threatened which I think is a necessity when it is not? Share what that might be.
7. What makes you feel despondent or even dislike yourself? Is there something too important to me? Something I am telling myself I have to have? Is that why I am so 'down' – because I have lost or failed at something which I think is a necessity when it is not? Share what that might be.

Example:

Someone might say: the situation in South Africa (crime, violence, the corrupt government, etc) makes me angry, despondent and worried!!! Help the group to interrogate these feelings. Most of them will stem from legitimate concerns (like safe environment for raising children; victim of crime, rampant corruption in government). It is right to be concerned about these things – so you can have burglar guards and an alarm (!). **BUT** ultimately we need to speak the truth to our hearts that God is great, that he is in control and **this** is our final security.