

## HOW TO RESPOND TO A CRISIS

Matthew 14:22-23

Acts 27:9-29

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Sunday, March 15, 2020

*“Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone.” (Matthew 14:22–23, NLT)*

GOD PUTS US INTO STORMS.

GOD ALWAYS HAS A PLAN.

GOD BRACKETS STORMS WITH MIRACLES.

1. THE FEEDING OF THE 5000
2. THE CALMING OF THE STORM AND WAVES
3. THE HEALINGS AT GENNESARAT.

*“No one had eaten for a long time. Finally, Paul called the crew together and said, ‘Men, you should have listened to me in the first place and not left Crete. You would have avoided all this damage and loss. But take courage! None of you will lose your lives, even though the ship will go down. For last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve **stood beside me**, and he said, ‘Don’t be afraid, Paul, for you will surely stand trial before Caesar! What’s more, God in his goodness has granted safety to everyone sailing with you.’ So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said.” (Acts 27:21–25, NLT)*

1. WE WILL ALWAYS HAVE ANOTHER STORM.
2. NOTHING CAN KEEP GOD’S PRESENCE FROM ME.
3. GOD WILL PULL ME THROUGH.
4. HOW TO MAKE THE STORM WORSE.

*“But the centurion was more persuaded by the pilot and the captain of the ship than by what was being said by Paul. Because the harbor was not suitable for wintering, the majority reached a decision to put out to sea from there, if somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing southwest and northwest, and spend the winter there. When a moderate south wind came up, supposing that they had attained their purpose, they weighed anchor and began sailing along Crete, close inshore.”*  
(Acts 27:11–13, NASB)

- a. Bad advice.
- b. Popular opinions
- c. Circumstances.
- d. Drifting.

*“... we gave way to it and let ourselves be driven along.”*  
(Acts 27:15, NASB)

## **GROWTHWORK**

### **1. RESPOND TO THE STORM WITH PRAYER.**

*“The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God’s own will. And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”* (Romans 8:26–28, NLT)

*“The heavens belong to the LORD, but he has given the earth to all humanity.”* (Psalm 115:16, NLT)

### **2. RESPOND WITH WORSHIP.**

*“Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me,”* (Acts 27:23, NLT)

3. RESPOND WITH WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING, AND KNOWLEDGE.

*“By wisdom the LORD founded the earth; by understanding he created the heavens. By his knowledge the deep fountains of the earth burst forth, and the dew settles beneath the night sky. My child, don’t lose sight of common sense and discernment. Hang on to them,”*  
(Proverbs 3:19–21, NLT)

4. RESPOND BY BEING FAITHFUL TO YOUR PURPOSE.

*“Don’t be afraid, Paul, for you will surely stand trial before Caesar! What’s more, God in his goodness has granted safety to everyone sailing with you.”* (Acts 27:24, NLT)

5. REMEMBER GOD’S PROMISES.

*“So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said.”*  
(Acts 27:25, NLT)

**MEMORY VERSE**

*“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.”*  
(Psalm 46:1, NLT)