



## In the Storm

Sunday, December 15, 2019

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Stepping Stones Community Church

*“Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”*

**Matthew 1:23 NLT**

### 1. When it comes to storms, you are...

- Coming out of a storm
- In the middle of a storm
- About to head into a storm

### 2. How we respond to storms

- Sometimes, we blame God
- Sometimes, we lose all hope

<sup>20</sup> The terrible storm raged for many days, blotting out the sun and the stars, until at last all hope was gone. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> But take courage! None of you will lose your lives, even though the ship will go down. <sup>23</sup> For last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me, <sup>24</sup> 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.’ <sup>25</sup> So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said.

**Acts 27:20-25 NLT**

### 3. Don’t let the presence of a storm cause you to doubt the presence of God

*I know the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.*

**Psalm 16:8 NLT**

### 4. Real peace isn’t found in a trouble-free life

- You will have trouble
- Real peace is found in the presence of God

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, <sup>2</sup> “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup> King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem... <sup>13</sup> After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,” the angel said. “Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

**Matthew 1:1-3, 13 NLT**

### Next Steps:

- Invite a friend to “God With Us”
- Rea Acts 27 (Paul’s storm and shipwreck)
- Ask God to help me see when I cause the storm
- Accept that I will have trouble/storms in my life and find peace from God’s strength & presence
- Commit to keep my faith and trust in God through every storm in life
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