

## Preparing for Storms

### A. We WILL have storms in this life.

"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world." John 16:33 (CSB)

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy." James 1:2 (NLT)

### B. Not all storms look alike.

"Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash." Matthew 7:24-27 (NLT)

- *Rains*- The stuff you can see coming and withstand, but sometimes it gets really bad.
- *Floods*- The stuff that happens in an overwhelming amount.
- *Winds*- The stuff that kicks you in the gut.

### C. The key to facing any storm is making sure your life is built on the right foundation.

#### 1. Trust in Jesus is the starting point of a good foundation.

"Trust in the LORD forever, For in God the LORD, *we have* an everlasting Rock." Isaiah 26:4 (NASB)

"As the Scriptures tell us, 'Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.'" Romans 10:11 (NLT)

#### 2. Obedience to Jesus builds our foundation on the rock.

"But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like." James 1:22-24 (NLT)

**Note:** Storms will reveal the strength of our foundation.

### D. We need to make sure there are no cracks in our foundation.

"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way." Psalms 139:23-24 (CSB)

**Note:** There is hope after we endure a storm.

"Blessed is the one who endures trials, because when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him." James 1:12 (CSB)