



Are you asleep, Jesus?

AT A GLANCE



Bible

Mark 4:35–41



Topic

Praying honestly when God is silent



Takeaway

I can tell Jesus everything – even my doubts and my anger



8 minutes



Object: a cushion



Preparation: 5 min



indoors or outdoors



Make it personal: In two sentences, share something you have experienced yourself on the topic “Praying honestly when God is silent”. Real stories stick best.



How the devotion works

1 min

Opening

Put the cushion in the middle. Ask: When have you ever felt that God is asleep – and does not notice at all what is going on with you?

2 min

Bible text

The disciples are on the lake with Jesus when a storm breaks out. The boat fills with water. And Jesus? He is asleep on a cushion. The disciples are not only frightened, they are angry too: “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?” Interesting: Jesus does not scold them for their question. He gets up and calms the storm. Only afterwards does he ask: “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

3 min

Thought

The disciples threw their honest question at Jesus – and that was exactly right: they went to him with their fear. In the Psalms, too, people pray like this: “Awake, Lord! Why do you sleep?” (Psalm 44:23). God can handle your honest questions. Faith does not mean never doubting, but going to Jesus with your doubts. And: Jesus being asleep does not mean he is not there. He was in the boat the whole time.

2 min

Conversation

What honest question would you like to ask Jesus one day?



Are you asleep, Jesus?



Prayer to read aloud

Jesus, sometimes it feels as if you are asleep. Thank you that I can still tell you everything. You are in the boat with me. Amen.



To think further

- Is it disrespectful to reproach God – or is it trust?
- Why does Jesus not calm every storm straight away?



For leaders

- Never put young people on the spot: ask open questions, nobody has to answer.
- Let one of the young people read the Bible text aloud.
- Encourage them to say the prayer themselves – the written prayer gives confidence.



Section: Well-known Bible stories. You will find matching group meetings and more devotions at scouts-cloud.com.