



Storm Warning: Week 4 — “Eye on the Sky”

CONNECT: If you could go back in time and witness first-hand any of Jesus’ miracles, which one would you choose?

GROW:

1. **Read Matthew 16:1-4.** Jesus had already performed many miracles involving thousands of people, so why did the Pharisees and Sadducees scheme together to test Him? What kind of sign were they looking for?
2. Jesus refuses to play their game; instead, He gives them a challenging response.
 - Why did He bring up red skies and weather forecasting?
 - Why did He say, *“Only a wicked, adulterous generation demands a sign?”*
 - What did He mean by *“the sign of Jonah”*?
 - Recap the story of Jonah; then **read Matthew 12:40-41**. Why is this the “sign” He gives them? How is Jesus greater than Jonah?
3. What kinds of signs are *we* still looking for? Do you ever demand Jesus prove Himself to you? Do you ever find yourself saying, *“Jesus, if you’ll do this, then I’ll believe... then I’ll really trust you?”* Are we looking for reasons to believe Him or reasons not to?
4. **Read John 12:37.** Miraculous signs don’t lead to repentance. What are the dangers when a church or movement focuses heavily on miracles, signs, wonders, and gifts (i.e., focusing more on the *gifts* of the Spirit rather than the *fruit* of the Spirit, and more on what *people* can do than what *Jesus* has already done)?
5. **Read Romans 4:25 and 8:32.** Scott said, “Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection is the only sign we will ever need.” Discuss the good news of the gospel as a group.
 - The death of Jesus = payment for your sin
 - The burial of Jesus = removal of your sin
 - The resurrection of Jesus = defeat of your sin

PRAY: *Jesus, I’m prone to want a sign rather than to trust You, to demand one more miracle over resting in the greatest miracle of the cross. You have proved yourself over and over, so help me trust You—with my hopes, with my circumstances, with my future.*

NEXT: Instead of demanding that He do something for us, Jesus challenges us to look at who He is and what He has done. This week, meditate on the grace and truths of the gospel and how they should intersect with your everyday life.