

Blessed Are Those Who Seek the Lord

Walk on Water

Sunday, August 29, 2021

Matthew 14: 22-32 NLT

²²Immediately 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. ²³After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone. ²⁴Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. ²⁵About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!" ²⁷But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!" ²⁸Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." ²⁹"Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted. ³¹Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?" ³²When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. ³³Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.

1. Faith Calls Us to Walk

Matthew 14: 28-29 "Tell me to come to you walking on the water."
John 10:27 My sheep listen to My voice and they follow Me.
2 Corinthians 5:7 We live by faith, not by sight.

2. Doubt Leads Us to Sink

Matthew 14:30 When he saw the wind and waves he began to sink.
Matthew 21:21 If you have faith and do not doubt... it will be done.
Ephesians 3:16-17 May He strengthen you with power through His Spirit.

3. Love Rescues Us

Matthew 14: 30-33 Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him.
Psalm 50:15 "Call on Me and I will rescue you."

Conclusion: Peter responded in faith to the voice of His Lord. He stepped into the supernatural and walked in the power of Christ. He and others experienced a miracle because Peter sought and followed Jesus' responses to "come." Let us seek. Let us listen for His response. Let our faith compel us to walk the path some see as impossible.

LIFE GROUP LESSON

Walk on Water

Week of August 29 – September 4, 2021

Ice Breaker: Think of a time you were compelled by faith to do something that seemed impossible for you?

Read Matthew 14: 22-32.

1. Read vs. 13-18. What happened right before this event?
2. What were Jesus' instructions following the feeding of thousands to His disciples? Was He asking them what they wanted to do?
3. Why would Jesus send them into a boat without Him? Where did Jesus go?
4. What happened to the weather while the disciples were on the boat?
5. Read Mark 6: 47-48. Did Jesus know they were struggling? What time did Jesus come to them? (v. 25 in Matthew). Why did He wait?
6. How did Jesus approach them? (v. 25) How did they respond?
7. How did Peter know it was Jesus? (v.27) What did Jesus say to them?
8. What did Peter ask of Jesus? (v.28) Why would Peter ask to do this?
9. How did Jesus respond to Peter's request to do the supernatural? Why would Jesus agree to this? What would it do for disciples? What was He rewarding in Peter?
10. How did Peter respond to Jesus' response to come? (v.29) What happened when Peter went over the side of the boat?
11. Read John 10:27. What did Peter do well? What should we emulate?
12. Read Ephesians 3: 16-17. Are we to pray for more of our own power?
13. What caused Peter to sink? Has that happened where you have felt the power of God and then think "no this can't be possible" so you sink?
14. What did Peter wisely do when he was sinking?
15. How did Jesus respond? Was Jesus rebuking Peter or encouraging him in His statement? (v.31)
16. How does this correlate to a Father and Teacher?
17. What happened to the wind when Jesus got in the boat with the disciples? What does this tell you about being in His Presence?
18. What can we learn about seeking the Lord and His power manifesting in us as we do?

Point to ponder: Peter chose to step into the supernatural if Jesus was willing. Jesus was willing and in fact calls each of us to rise above what we see in the natural and experience His power in the supernatural for His glory and to our great joy!