

## Walking on Water, Trusting Jesus

**Key Scriptures:** Matthew 14:22–33, Mark 6:45–52, and John 6:15–21

*Matthew 14:22-33 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup> And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."*

### Key Point:

When we are in the will of God and still find ourselves in a storm, we can trust that Jesus sees us, prays for us, comes to us at the right time, and has complete authority over what we fear most.

## TALK IT OVER

**Start talking:** Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What is the worst storm you've personally experienced? What do you remember most about it?

**Reflect, Think, & Share:** Read through the key scriptures and share any observations or questions with the group.

- Why do you think Jesus sent the disciples ahead of Him into the boat while He went up on the mountain to pray?
- All three accounts mention the storm and the disciples' fear. What does this tell us about the reality of hardship—even when we are obeying Jesus?
- In Matthew's account, Peter steps out of the boat. What stands out to you about Peter's faith and failure in that moment?
- Mark notes that the disciples were "*utterly astounded... for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened*" (Mark 6:52). What connection might there be between the feeding of the 5,000 and this storm?
- In John's account, the disciples were willing to take Jesus into the boat, and immediately the boat reached land. What does this emphasize about Jesus' authority?
- Jesus says, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." Why is His identity the foundation for courage?
- What does this miracle reveal about who Jesus is—not just what He can do?
- Why do you think Jesus allowed the storm to continue for hours before coming to them?
- When have you felt like the disciples—straining against the wind, exhausted, and wondering where Jesus is?
- What would it look like for you personally to "step out of the boat" in faith right now? What fears threaten to pull your eyes off Christ?

**Start doing:** what would trusting God in the storm look like there this week? What would be a "Peter walking on the water with Jesus" response?

**Prayer:** Do you have any specific decisions or areas of life where you could use prayer from others asking God to guide you? If you feel comfortable, share these issues with your study group so that they can pray with you and for you.

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