

Read Matthew 14:22-33 – Jesus Walks On Water.

Even though the disciples were doing exactly what Jesus had instructed them to do, it did not keep them from experiencing a difficult and trying storm. Does that surprise you? Why or why not?

Have you ever found yourself stuck in one of life’s storms, and felt that no matter how hard you tried, you could not make headway?

Why do you think God allows us to experience storms? What affect do these storms have on you?

While the storms of life are never pleasant, they do produce certain benefits.

The very thing the disciples feared, the sea, was the very thing the Lord used as the vehicle to reveal Himself to them. He also came during the fourth watch, which was the darkest moment of their storm.

How has Jesus ever revealed himself to you during one of life’s difficult storms?

When Jesus came walking on the water, the disciples did not recognize Him. They thought He was a ghost and cried out in fear.

Jesus said, “It is I.” He revealed Himself to them in their darkest moment. It was at that moment the disciples were face to face with the One who possesses all power over heaven and earth. Why do we act at times like we have forgotten that Jesus has all power over heaven and earth?

Jesus goes on say, “Do not be afraid.” He instructs them not to fear. Why do you think he does this?

In the presence of Jesus fear is dismissed.

*“Lord, if it’s You,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to You on the water.”  
“Come,” He said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” He said, “why did you doubt?” Matthew 14:30-31*

Walking on water is a supernatural event. Why do you think Peter was able to this?

What caused Peter to start to sink?

What did Peter do after fear began to overtake him?

How did Jesus respond to Peter?

Why does Jesus say to Peter, “You of little faith”? What do you think Jesus was trying to teach him?

Why does Jesus ask the question, “Why did you doubt?”

What should we learn from Peter’s walk on water?

Real faith is about trust in God. Trust in His grace, trust in His mercy, trust in His power, trust in His love!

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# GODISNOWHERE

## JUMPING OUT OF THE NEST

PASTOR JAMES CRAFT

November 1, 2009

### MATTHEW 14:22-33

#### TAKING THE FIRST STEP...



#### TAKING A STEP OF FAITH REQUIRES

#### OVERCOMING YOUR FEARS.

MATTHEW 14:22-27

1 JOHN 4:18

**There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.**

ROMANS 8:37-39

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**



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II

**TAKING A STEP OF FAITH REQUIRES**

**OVERCOMING YOUR FEARS.**

MATTHEW 14:28-29

MATTHEW 14:28

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." .

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III

**TAKING A STEP OF FAITH REQUIRES**

**TRUST.**

MATTHEW 14:30

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

HEBREWS 12:2 (NASB)

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith...

MATTHEW 14:31

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand...

HEBREWS 11:1

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

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**Getting To Know Each Other ....**

Share with a few others things you like to do in your free time.

What is something you would like to do if you had more free time and why would you choose this?

**Loving Well .... (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)**

**"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."**  
John 15:12

**Love does not boast...**

*Love is always humble*

*Love is modest and unpretentious*

What are things people tend to boast about?

*As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. James 4:16*

*They pour out arrogant words; all the evildoers are full of boasting. Psalms 94:4*

*Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough? 1 Corinthians 5:6*

How do the verses listed above impact your thoughts on boasting?

- o The dictionary defines boasting as "glorifying oneself in speech; talk in a self-admiring way; a source of pride."
- o It defines self-confidence as "faith or belief that one will act in a right, proper, or effective way."

How does boasting affect a person's self-confidence?

What does a boastful attitude say about our understanding of God's power and providence in our lives?

What are some action steps we can take to build our confidence but control our boastfulness?

*Have someone in your group pray for God's Spirit to fill us with His kindness, and that our words and actions would model that kindness to others.*

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