

PETER • JONAH • JOB • NOAH • PAUL

STORM STORIES

SURVIVING LIFE'S TEMPESTS

PART TWO: FOCUS OR DROWN!

"I will hide beneath the shadow of your wings until this violent storm is past."
Psalm 57:1

This week: Matthew 14:22-33

1. A MIRACLE TIMES THREE

- He _____ on the water
"In the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking upon the sea."
Matthew 14:25
- He walked _____ than they could _____
"...He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them." Mark 6:48
- He got in the boat and _____ the boat
was at _____
"They were willing therefore to receive Him into the boat; and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going."
John 6:21

2. PETER'S PATTERN FOR DEALING WITH DIFFICULTIES

- _____
"And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were frightened, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out for fear." Matt. 14:26
- _____
"But immediately Jesus spoke to them saying, 'Take courage, it is I. Do not be afraid'" Matt. 14:27
- _____
"And He said, 'Come!' Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus." Matt. 14:29

- _____
"But seeing the wind..." Matt. 14:30a
- _____
"...he became afraid." Matt. 14:30b
- _____
"And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'" Matt. 14:31
- _____
"And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, 'You are certainly God's Son!'" Matt. 14:33

3. DEVELOPING CHARACTER QUALITIES THAT LAST

- _____ : Live with _____
- _____ : Watch _____
- _____ : Learn to _____

Daily Meditations Spend some time each day meditating on today's topic...

This week's memory verse:

"My eyes are ever on the Lord, for only he will release my feet from the snare."

Psalm 25:15

Monday

Read Matthew 14:25-33. What impacted you most from the sermon last weekend? Why do you think Jesus chose to walk on water to get to the boat?

Which of the three miracles in this story most impressed you? Why?

Recall a time when you felt adrift in a storm. What emotions did you feel? Looking back, what miracles did you see in that storm?

Thank God today that you are never out of His care and sight. Thank Him for the miracles you've seen in your life. Pray that your faith in Him will grow this week.

Tuesday

Read Matthew 14:26-27. Let's look at the Peter's first three choices for dealing with difficulties. When are you most susceptible to fear? How can you relate to the disciples?

Think about Jesus' words to the disciples in verse 27: "Take courage, it is I. Do not be afraid." In what area of your life do you need to hear that phrase? How could those words change your attitude towards that circumstance?

Thank God today that He is with you. Thank Him for His words of encouragement found in the Bible. Talk to Him about the areas of your life where you're struggling with fear. Ask Him to give you a hope and courage founded in Him.

Wednesday

Read Matt. 14:28-29. Why do you think Peter wanted to get out of the boat and walk with Jesus? What do his actions tell you about his personality?

Put yourself in Peter's place. Imagine what it must have been like to take the first step out of the boat. When have you felt as though you were stepping out of the boat?

What's the best part of stepping out of the boat? What's the scariest?

How does it help you to know that when you step out of the boat you're walking toward Jesus?

Ask God to give you the faith to step out of the boat. Thank Him for His love for you.

Thursday

Read Matthew 14:30-33. This is an interesting set of verses. We see Peter go from walking on water to fear and back to faith again. How does Peter's journey of faith help you?

What events or experiences have led you to trust in Jesus?

Read Psalm 6:4 & Psalm 116:3-7. What do these verses say about calling to God for help and His rescue?

How do these verses encourage you?

Thank God today that you can call to Him for help. Thank Him for His help and rescue. Ask Him for faith to wait for His way out of trouble and a willingness to learn from Him.

Friday

Read Matthew 22-33. How do you think this experience changed Peter?

Write down two ways stepping out of faith has changed you.

- 1.
- 2.

Think about your life right now. In what area do you need strengthen your faith in God's hand and timing? How will you practically do that today?

Thank God today that He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Thank Him for His faithfulness to you. Talk to Him about the areas you're struggling to have faith in. Ask Him to strengthen you today and grow your faith in Him.

Saturday

Today, just meditate on God's power to calm the storms in your life. Spend some time focusing on God's abilities and power. Please pray for the weekend services. Thanks!