

Faith in Rough Waters (1/28/24)

Main Verses: Matthew 14:22-33

Key Verses: Matthew 14:29-30

'Takeaway': When Jesus calls us to uncertain places and new faith experiences, we can trust that no matter how scary it gets, he will not let us sink.



Getting Started: Have you ever done something you are afraid to do at first? What (or Who) helped you be able to do it?

READ: Matthew 14:22-33 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What did the disciples think they were seeing?
- What did Peter ask Jesus to do?
- Why did Peter begin to sink? Who did he call out to?
- How did Jesus respond?

Elementary:

- What did the disciples think they were seeing?
- What did Peter ask Jesus to do?
- Why did Peter begin to sink? Who did he call out to?
- How did Jesus respond?
- How did those in the boat respond to what they had witnessed?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- Jesus called Peter to step out of the boat and walk on water. Peter obeyed Jesus, acting in faith.
- When Peter took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink, but still cried out to Jesus for help.
- Jesus immediately helped Peter in his moment of uncertainty. We will not walk on water (or sink in it) like Peter, but we can trust that He will help us as well when we feel like hard times are pulling us down.
- The people in the boat responded by worshiping Jesus.

Elementary:

- Jesus called Peter to step out of the boat and walk on water. Peter obeyed Jesus, acting in faith.
 - When Peter took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink, but still cried out to Jesus for help.
 - Jesus immediately helped Peter in his moment of uncertainty. We will not walk on water (or sink in it) like Peter, but we can trust that Jesus will help us as well when we feel like hard times are pulling us down.
- The people in the boat responded by worshiping Jesus, the Lord of all creation.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's Word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God. Thank him that he is always with us. Ask him to help you have faith like Peter's, with the eyes of our heart fixed on Jesus; that you would learn more about him, and to help you to always remember that he is with us and will help us when things seem hard or uncertain.

(Elementary) Talk to God. Thank him that he is always with us. Ask him to help you have faith like Peter's, with the eyes of our heart fixed on Jesus; that you would grow in your love for him and your obedience to him. Thank him that we can always know, through faith in Jesus, that he is with us and will help us when things are hard or uncertain.