

Jesus Walks on Water

In the dark of night, the disciples struggle against a storm when they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. Peter steps out in faith.

Matthew 14:22-33 • Mark 6:45-52 • John 6:16-21

CHARACTERS: Jesus, Peter, The disciples

THEMES: Faith, Fear, Jesus' deity, Peter's boldness, Worship

IMMEDIATELY AFTER FEEDING the five thousand, Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of Him to the other side while He dismissed the crowd. After leaving them, He went up on a mountainside to pray.

Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and Jesus was alone on land. He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn, He went out to them, walking on the lake.

When the disciples saw Him walking on the water, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost!' they cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.'

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

'Come,' said Jesus.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind and the waves, he was afraid and began to sink. 'Lord, save me!' he cried.

Immediately Jesus reached out His hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' He said, 'why did you doubt?'

When they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

Peter's brief walk on water reveals a profound truth: as long as his eyes were on Jesus, he did the impossible. When he looked at the circumstances, he sank. But even in his sinking, Jesus' hand was there to save him. The One who walks on storms can keep us walking too—if we keep our eyes on Him.

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