

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately JESUS made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of HIM to the other side, while HE dismissed the crowd. ²³ After HE had dismissed them, HE went up on a mountainside “by HIMSELF to pray. When evening came, HE was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵ During the fourth watch of the night JESUS went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw HIM walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷ But JESUS immediately said to them, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

²⁸ “LORD, if it is YOU,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to YOU on the water.”

²⁹ “Come,” HE said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward JESUS. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “LORD, save me!”

³¹ Immediately, JESUS reached out HIS hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” HE said, “why did you doubt?”

³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped HIM, saying, “Truly YOU are the SON OF GOD.”

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 14:22-33

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
August 13, 2023

OVERCOMING FEAR

FEARFUL, FAITHLESS AND FRUITLESS

READJUSTING YOUR PRIORITIES

KNOWING WHERE TO LOOK

Memory Verse: Matthew 14:27

But JESUS immediately said to them, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY

Getting Started

- 1) What was your attitude/mind-set when you entered worship this week? What was it when you left worship? What most contributed to that change?
- 2) What insight, principle or observation from this week's message did you find most helpful, eye opening, or troubling? Explain.

Into the Bible

- 3) Read I Kings 19:9-18. In what way did the LORD pass by Elijah? What lesson might GOD have communicated to Elijah in this way? What do GOD'S instructions to Elijah indicate about his mission and GOD'S plan for Israel?
- 4) Read Romans 10:5-15. On what basis are people justified and saved? What is the word of faith that we are to proclaim as Paul does? What promise is made to those who believe? To whom is salvation available?

- 5) Read Matthew 14:22-33. For what reason were the disciples afraid? Was Peter able to walk on the water? Explain. What caused Peter to begin to sink in the water? What did the disciples understand after JESUS calmed the storm?

Application to Life

- 6) What storms have you been facing in life lately? How have they affected you? What have been your greatest fears regarding these storms? What have they kept you from doing or caused you to do differently?
- 7) How has JESUS come to you in the midst of the storms of life? What has made it hard to keep your eyes on HIM? How can keeping your eyes on JESUS help to get through the storms? How has JESUS lifted you up when you had that sinking feeling?
- 8) When have you turned a crisis into an opportunity for growth or refocus? How can times of crisis help us to reevaluate our lives and situations? How do the storms of life help us to raise our commitment to or grow in our relationship with GOD?
- 9) What do you sense GOD is saying to you based on this study?