

Jesus Walks On Water (John 6:16-21)

Mark 6:45-52 (NASB95): And immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the multitude away. (46) And after bidding them farewell, He departed to the mountain to pray. (47) And when it was evening, the boat was in the midst of the sea, and He was alone on the land. (48) And seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night, He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them. (49) But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out; (50) for they all saw Him and were frightened. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid." (51) And He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they were greatly astonished, (52) for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their heart was hardened.

Matthew 14:22-34 (NASB95): And immediately He made the disciples get into the boat, and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. (23) And after He had sent the multitudes away, He went up to the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone. (24) But the boat was already many stadia away from the land, battered by the waves; for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. (25) And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were frightened, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. (27) But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." (28) And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." (29) And He said, "Come!" And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus. (30) But seeing the wind, he became afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" (31) 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?" (32) And when they got into the boat, the wind stopped. (33) And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying "You are certainly God's Son!" (34) And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

1. Jesus overcame the storm by walking through it

- **Going through storms, rather than avoiding them, brings victory through Jesus**

Romans 8:35-37 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (36) Just as it is written, "For Thy sake we are being put to death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered." (37) But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

- **Our limitations show the power of God**

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. (10)

Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

2. Jesus addressed the disciples' fear by building their faith

- **Remember that God is always worthy of our praise, even during storms & trials (always start with worship)**

Psalm 18:3 I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

- **God uses storms to harden and strengthen our faith; fear uses storms to harden our hearts**

1 Peter 3:15 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, (15) but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.

- **Our faith grows as we see God's deliverance**

Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous man shall live by faith."

3. Application: Parents are called to shape the faith of their kids, just as Jesus shaped the faith of His disciples

- **As parents, we want to capture the hearts of our kids**

Proverbs 3:1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments

- **In contrast, external behavior conformation allows drifting away from God**

Matt 15:8 "'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me.'"

- **Parents are to guard their kids by keeping them in the truth**

John 17:12 "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Thy name which Thou hast given Me; and I guarded them, and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled."

Deuteronomy 11:18-19 "You shall therefore impress these words of mine on your heart and on your soul; and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. (19) And you shall teach them to your sons, talking of them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road and when you lie down and when you rise up.

4. God is the One who establishes godly families

- **We love and train children but God is the One who finishes our work**