

Walking On The Water

“²²Immediately 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's 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.’” (Matthew 14:22-33)

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side. Very beautiful thing is to be with the Lord, but there are certain times Jesus would send us ahead of Him to the other side and to further places. We might not be comfortable with such arrangement but Jesus knows what He is doing and He has a purpose. A child on first time to be send to the school he might not be willing and he is unhappy to move out of the comfort zone being well cuddled and cared by the parents. But that is good for him to be build up and become stronger. THE SAME FOR US, Jesus would send us to a further point in order to build us up in our faith and calling, and to make us strong and courageous people.

What Jesus was doing after He sent His disciples to the next side of the lake? *He went up on a mountainside by himself to pray.* Good possibility that He prayed for His disciples. The same for us this very day; we know that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He was buried, and rose from the dead on the third day to give us eternal life. And now He is at the right hand of God the Father interceding and praying for us. Living with us now is The Holy Spirit, and we are backed with the prayer and the intercession of Jesus for us.

We are not alone Jesus is with us; we might be like the disciples on board with considerable distance from shore and buffeted with different kinds of winds, waves and trials, but we are not alone Jesus is watching over us. He cares and He has concern for each and every one of us.

Jesus went to His disciples while they were in the mid of the wind and in time they might not be expecting that God would be there to help. He went to them walking on the water. Something they would not think of or expect. That caused them to be afraid as we read, *“²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified.”* God is here with us to back us up; He may do new and unexpected things for us in order to save us and protect us.

But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.” Jesus had revealed Himself to them in a strange way. And Jesus may reveal Himself to you in a strange and unexpected way, so don't be afraid. You might be in a middle of life worries and pressurized from every side. But don't be amazed; be still, it can be the way that God is manifesting Himself to you in your life. God revealed Himself to Moses in a burning Bush. He revealed Himself to Joshua as angel with a sword. He revealed Himself to the disciples walking on the water. And He might reveal Himself to you in another unfamiliar way to you. Our God is a wonderful Lord, caring and compassionate, expect from Him the best and more than what you think or imagine.

“Lord, if it's you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” Don't be afraid when God is revealing Himself to you and calling you to follow Him. Don't be afraid to ask Him to confirm His calling to you. And don't be afraid to take the first step of faith; to get down out of the boat and walk on the water, as *Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.* As you take the first step of faith you are moving toward the Lord.

As God inspire you and speak to you and confirm His calling to you with the vision that He gives to you, then you need to take the first step of faith. It is not easy to get out of the boat walking by faith on the water. But you have to do it and no one will do it instead of you. God is calling you to achieve great and glorious things for Him. I am not telling you to jump and harm yourself, but as the Lord spoke to you and confirm His calling to you through the Word of God and the help of the Holy Spirit, the circumstances around you and the sound counsels of dedicated people of God, then go ahead with courage to take the first step.

Christian life with God's calling is walking on the water. *“We live by faith, not by sight.”* Not depending on the media around us but what we hear and see from the Lord. We go on with God's calling trusting Him that He will sustain us and uphold us with His grace throughout the journey.

Peter was walking on the water toward Jesus. *“But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink.”* Don't look toward the wind or the unfavourable circumstances around you. Continue to fix your eyes on the face of the Lord and not on hardships or trials, but continue to walk steadfast toward achieving God's calling and perform what He asks you to do.

My Dear and Beloved: When peter started to sink he *cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”* Don't be afraid, and don't be in doubt Jesus is beside you even you are walking on the water. His hand is near you. He is ready immediately to catch you and uphold you when you cry to Him. Therefore be strong, be courageous and go on in serving the Lord as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for Your encouraging Word to me. Lord I commit myself into your hand. I will fully trust in you; I will not be shaken, in times of troubles I will run to you. Lord uphold me with your grace, I commit myself to go on with your calling to me, to do and achieve what you ask of me to be and to do, walking on the water, and living by faith and not by sigh. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.