Walking on Water

Ken Chapman · Matthew 14:22–33

INTRODUCTION

- Even in the New Testament, our Lord and his disciples seem to be often around water.
- And so Peter steps out of the boat to walk on water, but Peter got distracted. He saw the waves and the storm and maybe took his eyes off Jesus and he began to sink.

1 The Nature of the Kingdom

- The people were trying to take him by force and make him a king.
- We recognize that they wanted a different king and a different kingdom. They wanted a king who could fill their stomachs.
- Jesus had to flee from them because that wasn't the type of king that he came to be.
- He didn't come to take care of us physically. He came to take care of us spiritually.

2 The Need of Prayer

- He had gone up into the mountain to be alone, to pray. That doesn't surprise us, does it? Jesus was a man of prayer.
- When we're going through difficult times, when we don't have anywhere else to turn, we go to the mountain to be alone and pray.
- Unleash the burdens and go to God and be alone and pray.
- It's okay to turn off your notifications. Silence your phone. And be uninterrupted in your conversation with your Father.

3 A Picture of Life Today

Hebrews 7:25

- Jesus is in the mountain, and the disciples are in the storm. That's kind of life today, isn't it? Our Lord is in heaven. And we're in the boat.
- Never forget that he came down out of that mountain and he took those who were his and safely carried them through to the other side.
- He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.
- He is pleading our case for us, having partaken of flesh and blood, having experienced what we experience.

4 Our Need to Overcome Fear

Romans 5:10

- But what was the disciples' first reaction? They're afraid.

- I know as a Christian, I ought to go to God. But are you afraid of him?
- If when we were his enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his son, much more having been reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.
- That's a God that if you're his child, you shouldn't be afraid of.

5 Sometimes We Need to Get Out of the Boat

John 14:27

- Isn't there some level in which Peter needs a pat on the back? Because he was the only one willing to get out of the boat.
- Can we say that the other disciples had even less faith? Because they never even got up off their seats.
- Sometimes we need to step out of the boat and act with courage and act with faith.
- Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, do I give it to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

6 Our Faith Must Grow

Colossians 3:2

- Peter does begin to sink because he took his eyes off of Jesus,.
- Peter, sometime from now, you're going to have to get out of the boat. And I'm not going to be here in the boat or in the water beside you. So your faith needs to grow, Peter.
- Set your mind on things above, not on things of the earth.
- If our faith is to grow, it's going to grow when we set our mind on heaven.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Would you get out of the boat and step out and walk not on water, but walk toward the water to be baptized this very morning for the forgiveness of your sins.**

MY NOTES