

Theme - Where Fear Ends, Faith Begins

Verse for reflection: “Oh you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

Matthew 14:22-33 (Verse 31)



Adults -

1. Stepping out in courage as Peter did on the boat can be very difficult. What “boat” is Jesus calling you to step out of right now? What might be holding you back from stepping out of said boat and into Jesus’ arms?
2. The disciples didn’t recognize Jesus at first and thought he was a ghost. Think about a time in your life when fear has risen in your life. Did that fear make it hard to see Jesus? Why or why not?
3. Peter begins to sink when he takes his eyes off Jesus. Why do you think our fear grows when our focus shifts? What happens to you when fear arises?

Obstacles for living out the Gospel: Fear; difficulty recognizing Jesus; distractions.



Teens -

1. What are some of your biggest fears? How can our fears affect our relationship with God?
2. Peter was willing to step out of the boat, even though it was scary. What does “stepping out of the boat” look like for a teenager today? Peter began to sink when he focused more on the storm than on Jesus. What are some “storms” or distractions that pull your attention away from God?
3. After Peter called out to Him, Jesus immediately reached out His hand when Peter started sinking. What does that teach us about how Jesus responds when we struggle?

Obstacles to living out the Gospel: Letting our fears be louder than our faith.

Children -

1. How do you think Peter felt when he first started walking on water toward Jesus?
What made Peter start sinking? Do you think Peter was doubting Jesus or himself? Why?
2. What are some things that build up your faith? What are some things that test it?
3. Whenever you feel afraid or doubtful, what do you do to help ease those fears or doubts? Do you think asking Jesus for courage would help you when you are afraid? Why or why not?

Obstacles to living out the Gospel: Self-doubt.