



Chapter 14:22-33

Matt. 14:22 Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

Matt. 14:23 And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.

Matt. 14:24 But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.

Matt. 14:25 Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea.

Matt. 14:26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear.

Matt. 14:27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."

Matt. 14:28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."

Matt. 14:29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

Matt. 14:30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

Matt. 14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Matt. 14:32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

Matt. 14:33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

Some helpful context: the Sea of Galilee is 7 miles across at its widest point. Most of the disciples grew up along its shores and had made their living sailing and fishing that lake so they knew it well and how to navigate from one side to the other.

Observations & Discussion

1. Compare the account you just read with the disciples experience in Matthew 8:23-27. What are the similarities in the two accounts and what is **the big important difference**?

2. Read over Matthew's account again carefully looking for the following clues: **what time of day** did Jesus send the disciples off in the boat? **What time** did Jesus catch up with them? **How far** had they rowed? **How long** were the disciples straining in their own power to get across the lake (approximately)?

3. Mark 6:52 provides an interesting bit of information that Matthew doesn't include in his account that will help us understand the lesson that Jesus wanted to teach the disciples. What do you think that lesson was and how does that tie-in with what they were supposed to learn from the feeding of the multitudes?

4. Of all the disciples only Peter got out of the boat! What kept him afloat and what made him sink? What does Peter's experience teach you about how faith works in your life?

5. Why does fear so often hinder our faith? Of what are you afraid? What is God's answer to our fears?