

PETER'S INSUFFICIENT FAITH

Matthew 14:22-33

Today let's look at and learn from Peter's insufficient faith

I. THE DISCIPLES' CONDITION (22-27)

A. SENT AWAY (22-23)

B. BATTLING STORMS (24)

C. ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED (25-26)

D. IMMEDIATELY ENCOURAGED (27)

- Because Jesus steps onto the scene ...

II. PETER'S SITUATION (28-31)

A. EXCITED (28)

1. Recognition: "Since it is You" (not "if it is You")

2. Request: Can I come ...?

B. INVITED (29a)

C. COMMITTED (29b)

1. Peter got out of the boat

2. Peter walked on the water

3. Peter came toward Jesus

D. DISTRACTED (30a)

1. He lost his focus

2. He lost his buoyancy

E. RESCUED (30b-31a)

1. When he called on Jesus for salvation

2. Immediately seized by Jesus!

F. EVALUATED (31b)

1. Christ's observation: "You of little faith"
2. Christ's interrogation: "Why did you doubt?"

G. DISTINGUISHED

1. Peter did not fear when others did
2. Peter spoke to Jesus while the Eleven did not
3. Peter stepped out of the boat ... others didn't
4. Peter's faith faltered but the others failed entirely

III. JESUS' IMPACT (32-33)

A. THE WIND STOPPED (32)

B. THE WORSHIP STARTED (33)

CONCLUSION:

We need a strong and sufficient faith

Might we humbly admit our deficiency and ask God to help us have more faith

- Like the father of a demon-possessed son talking to Jesus about his boy

It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him.

But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!"²³ And Jesus said to him, "If You can?" All things are possible to him who believes."

²⁴ Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "**I do believe; help my unbelief.**"

- Mark 9:22-24

May God help us to pray "I do believe; help my unbelief"

All Scripture is from The New American Standard Bible - Updated
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