

Peter Cries Out

Scripture Reading — Matthew 14:22-32

*When he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"
Matthew 14:30 —*

Peter's walking on water is almost as dramatic as being in a boat and having Jesus come walking on the water toward you. Had Herod heard about this event when he hoped that Jesus would do similar miracles at his trial? (See Luke 23:8.) Today we sometimes use the expression "walking on water" to describe some people's great talents and abilities.

The disciples were terrified, but Jesus calmed them. Peter tested his faith and got wet. Typical Peter! A bold start followed by a quick fizzle! But we've got to admire his effort. At least he got out of the boat. He took the initial step and walked on water. Often enough we're totally afraid without even asking to step out in response to Christ's call.

Seeing the wind's power, Peter became afraid and began to sink. He cried out what we all need to cry, whether in water, in the boat, or walking on land: "Lord, save me!" Wet beyond his sandals, Peter realized his need and saw who could help him. It's a lifesaving lesson that we all need to learn.

We've got to step out in faith with our eyes on Jesus, not on the fearful winds. We've got to know when to cry for the Lord's help, whether our marriage is sinking or our church is dying. What is it that makes us doubt that Jesus can help? Has he ever failed us?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, save us from thinking that our boldness lets us walk on water without your help. May our confidence in you as the Son of God help us get out of the boat. Amen.

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