



Matthew 14:22-33

(22) Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. (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. (24) But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. (25) Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. (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. (27) But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.' (28) And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." (29) So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. (30) But when he saw that the wind *was* boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" (31) And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?' (32) And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. (33) Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God.'

Mark 6:45-52

(45) Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away. (46) And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray. (47) Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He *was* alone on the land. (48) Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed

them by. (49) And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; (50) for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, 'Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.' (51) Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. (52) For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.

[John 6:15-21](#)

(15) Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone. (16) Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, (17) got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. (18) Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. (19) So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. (20) But He said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' (21) Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

New King James Version

Christ's miracle of walking on the water ([Matthew 14:22-33](#); [Mark 6:45-52](#); [John 6:15-21](#)) took place soon after feeding the 5,000. The next day He preached a sermon in the synagogue that turned their rejoicing into near total rejection—almost all but the twelve disciples left Him. A representative of [God](#) must not trust in human *praise* nor withhold the truth to try to *please* people. Instead, as a true witness, he must preach God's truth regardless of the world's disapproval.

Later, [Jesus](#) told His disciples to set out in their boat for the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. At three hours after midnight, straining at the oars against the storm, they were still only halfway across the lake. In a contrary wind and tossed by the waves, the disciples did not realize that Jesus was fully aware of their difficulty. They were about to learn of His sympathy and willingness to come to their aid. He approached the distressed disciples in an

entirely unexpected way, by walking on the turbulent sea as if it were stable as rock.

Clearly, He had been praying for and watching out for them while on the mountain, but when He passed near them, they did not recognize their Savior. The night was extremely black in the storm, and their nerves were on edge with fear. Under these conditions, they thought He was a spirit, an ominous apparition of some kind. But He encouraged them immediately with familiar reassurance: "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." Later in their lives during times of anxiety, this moment probably came to mind as a lesson deeply received and continually comforting.

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

[The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Walking on the Water \(Part One\)](#)

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