

Study Guide
The Kingdom Has Come
Matthew 14:22-36

Big Idea: Jesus wants us to walk by faith and not by sight!

1. Read Matthew 14:22-23. Why do you think Jesus prayed? How does prayer shape and transform our inner life? How does prayer prepare us for the external life?
2. Read Matthew 14:24-27. Discuss the idea that life can be like living in a boat. Share a time when you felt the reality that you are not in control.
3. Read Matthew 14:28-29. Put yourself in Peter's shoes. What must it have been like for him to step out of the boat? How can we learn to step out of our "comfort zones" and see the supernatural work of God?
4. Read Matthew 14:30-33. How do you and I choose what we will focus on? How does Jesus help us when we fail? Discuss the value of knowing the object of our faith- *"Truly you are the Son of God."*

Application

Take a few moments to quietly confess areas in which you have not trusted in Jesus. Tell Him of your challenge in trying to walk in faith.

Message Slides

Upside Down Kingdom

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I. Jesus Engages the Unseen World (v.22-23)

22Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.23And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

II. Jesus Trains us to Live in the Unseen World (v. 24-27)

24but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. 25And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. 26But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. 27But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

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III. Peter Steps out into the Unseen World (v.28-29)

28And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.

IV. What is the Object of your Faith? (v.30-33)

30But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." 31Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "**Truly you are the Son of God.**"

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- A. I get to choose what I focus on!
- B. Jesus helps you when you fail.
- C. Jesus Wants us to Trust in Him!

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