Could You Walk on Water?

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INTRODUCTION

- I don't want to analyze any of the characters in the story specifically. I want us to analyze ourselves.
- Ultimately, I want to ask the question could you walk on water? And this is a question not necessarily of ability in my mind, but more one of preparation.
- What if today is the day that the Lord asks you to get out of your boat and to trust Him to come to Him in the middle of a difficult or treacherous situation?

1 Peter Allowed Himself to Be Distracted

Matthew 13:20–22

- The deeper problem, I believe, is that Peter allowed himself to be distracted by the things around him.
- Peter didn't get out of the boat and immediately start to sink. He walked on water. And only then later did he begin to sink.
- Jesus says there are some who will walk on water for a little while until things get tough. And then they will sink.
- This is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.
- It's hard to not think about the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches. And how easily those things can cause us to sink.

2 Focus on the Right Things

2 Corinthians 5:6–7; Hebrews 12:1–2

- If you are focused on the right things, your whole body, your whole being will be full of light.
- We are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body, we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.
- He walked by sight, looking around at everything that was happening. And he realized how crazy and absurd it was what he was doing.
- Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing your eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.
- The Hebrew writer says, What you need to do is focus on the right things.

3 Everyone Sinks at Some Point

- The truth is that everyone sinks at some point. Everyone's faith is tested.
- And what happened to them when they took their eyes away from where they should be, they were expelled from the garden because of it.

- What cares try to occupy your mind when you put your head on your pillow at night and you try to go to sleep?
- I want you to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that sinking is good.
- He left the comfort of what he knew and understood. And he went into a whole new world that he had no idea how to navigate.

4 Sinking Causes Us to Reach

- When your lungs need air and your body needs oxygen, you will naturally, without thinking about it, fight and claw to reach for anything that might help.
- In the same way, Peter reached out as a natural human response to the fact that he was sinking.
- Perhaps it was the physical action of beginning to sink that caused him to do what he needed to do in the first place and refocus on the Lord.

5 Sinking Causes Us to Acknowledge How Badly We Need God

- He doesn't look to other people. He only looks to Jesus. He knew that Jesus was his only hope.
- God does sometimes give us more than we can handle, specifically in order to cause us to reach out to Him as our only hope.
- I had nothing. There was nothing I could do. There was nothing doctors could do. There was nothing nurses could do.
- Jesus knows that Peter will sink. This is not news to Jesus. And Jesus knows that Peter will reach out to him to be saved.

THE CHALLENGE

What if you are asked today to get out of the boat and walk on the water? Are you prepared?

MY NOTES