

Topic: Faith... Not Feet
Text: Matthew 14:22-32
Theme: “Walk with your faith and not with your feet”

INTRODUCTION

- One of the greatest miracles in the Bible was when Jesus and Peter walked on the water.
- But before it happened, Jesus went through physical stress and emotional downturn. The crowd, whom he feed with 5 loaves and 2 fishes, followed Him for healing. What's worse, His cousin John was just decapitated.
- Before nightfall, He told His disciples to get into the boat, while He went up to the hills to pray. Recharged, He then walked on the sea to meet them.
- Through this incident, Jesus teaches us how to walk daily with our faith, and not feet. No adversities can affect Jesus' ability to perform miracles to transform our lives.
- Yes, Peter walked on the water too, but begun to sink when he shifted his focus on the wind. When we lose strength and control in life's journey, just cry: “Lord, save me!” And Jesus is right there to rescue.

I. WALK WITH COURAGE

V27b "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

- Courage is not the absence of fear, but the ability to conquer fear. (Psalm 23:4)

A. Depend on Him.

1. He promised to be with us always.
2. We can overcome any obstacles in life because He is bigger than our needs.
3. We can do all things through Him who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13)

B. Be assured that all things will turn out for our own good. (Romans 8:28)

- God has all the resources and power to turn things around in our favour.

II. WALK WITHOUT DOUBTING

V28a "Lord, if it's you,"

A. Do not doubt/worry. (Luke 12:22-31)

1. Doubt your doubts before you doubt your faith in Him.
2. Worrying is doubting; doubting is faith in opposite direction.

B. Do not confess negative things. (Matthew 9:29; Revelation 12:11)

C. Do not rely on signs and confirmations; they are lower type of faith.

V28a "... if...,"

1. Confirmation-type faith: "Fleece in, fleece out" is not walking with real faith. (Judges 6:36-40)
2. The Spirit leads and testifies to our own spirit. (Romans 8:14, 16)

III. WALK WITH GOD'S APPROVAL

V29a "Come..."

A. Listen to God and not to yourself.

- Never stop praying until the answer is delivered. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

B. Do not play like God.

- God doesn't follow us; it is us who follow Him.

IV. WALK AND LOOK AT JESUS

V29b Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

A. Look at the Author and Finisher of our faith.

B. Peter sank because he later set his eyes on the wind and waves (unanswered prayer, problems, persecutions, etc.)

CONCLUSION:

- Jesus is ready to assist us whenever we call unto Him. He extends His helping hands to rescue us. He strengthens our faith when we reach the bottom.
V31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"
- When Jesus helps, peace reign, fear and doubt have no room.
V32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.