

IV. RELY ON GOD'S HELP

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?'"*
Matthew 14:30-31

You "walk on water" when you focus on God. You sink in your life when you take your eyes off of God and put them on your circumstances.

Three things to notice about Peter's prayer:

- It's shortness (Matthew 6:7).
- It's source (Hebrews 12:1-2).
- It's sincerity (James 5:16).

³ *"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."*
Jeremiah 33:3

V. REJOICE IN GOD'S PROTECTION

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.'"*
Matthew 14:32-33

God is the only true source of perfection.

⁸ *"I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety."*
Psalm 4:8

**IF YOU WANT TO WALK ON WATER, YOU'VE GOT TO
GET OUT OF THE BOAT**

FOLLOW JESUS: STORIES ON THE LIFE OF PETER

In The Storm: A Story Of Faith

Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. Jesus called out to Peter, *"Follow Me"* (Matthew 4:19). This began what would be a remarkable journey of Peter learning how to follow Jesus more closely.

There is much we can learn from studying the life of Peter. Many of the challenges he faced are common to all of us. We can relate to his humanity as he experienced great moments of faith and moments of failure.

To follow Jesus is to be like Jesus. Knowing this the Key Verse for this series is I Peter 2:21 where Peter wrote, *"For this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."*

B. Attend the FOLLOW JESUS Teaching series to learn how to follow Jesus more closely. Explore interesting stories and valuable lessons from the life of Peter. Learn from this inspiring transformation of how a simple fisherman became a founding leader of Christianity.

Oct 12 On The Shore: A Story Of Transformation

Oct 19 Cast Your Nets: A Story Of Provision

TODAY In The Storm: A Story Of Faith

Nov 2 They Saw His Glory: A Story Of Confidence

Nov 9 Washing Their Feet: A Story Of Serving

Nov 16 I Don't Know Him: A Story Of Failure

Nov 23 By The Fire: A Story Of Restoration

Nov 30 Build My Church: A Story Of Significance

C. TEXT Matthew 14:22-33

Follow Jesus Principle: If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat.

²⁹ *"So He said, 'Come.' And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus."*
Matthew 14:29

HOW TO TRUST JESUS IN YOUR STORMS

Faith is confident obedience to the Word of God regardless of circumstances or consequences.

I. RECOGNIZE GOD'S STORMS

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."* Matthew 14:22-24

Storms always have a purpose.

There are two kinds of storms:

- Storms of correction for discipline.

¹ *"Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,*

² *'Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me.'*

³ *But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.*

⁴ *But the LORD sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up."* Jonah 1:1-4

- Storms of perfection for growth.

⁶ *"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,*

⁷ *that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,"* I Peter 1:6-7

II. REALIZE GOD'S PRESENCE

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.'"*

Matthew 14:25-27

God never promised to keep you from storms, but He did promise to be with you through storms.

² *"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you."*

Isaiah 43:2

³³ *"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."*

John 16:33

III. RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

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."*

Matthew 14:28-29

Faith is not taking a blind step into the darkness of this world, but a bold step into the light of His Word.

¹⁷ *"So, then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."* Romans 10:17

⁸ *"Also, I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I Send me.'"* Isaiah 6:8