

Launching Text: Job 14:1 Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble.

1-Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Preaching Text: Matthew 14:22-33 And straightway Jesus constrained (or compelled & commanded) his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. ²³ And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. ²⁴ But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. ²⁷ But straightway Jesus spoke unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. ²⁸ And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. ²⁹ And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. ³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? ³² And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. ³³ Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

1. THE VOYAGE OF LIFE

1. The Summons That Was Raised (God has summoned us to live out our lives with Him) come-follow-go-tell-do

TEXT: Mat 14:22-23 And straightway Jesus constrained (or compelled & commanded) His disciples to get into a ship and to go before Him unto the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. ²³ And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, He was there alone.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have rule over you (including the Lord God Almighty) and submit yourselves....

Luke 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

John 14:23 Jesus says..., If you love Me, you will keep My words: and I & My Father loves you, and We will come unto you and make our abode with you. (LDT)

Isaiah 1:19-20 If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land: ²⁰ But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured with the sword (which is the Word of God): for the mouth of the LORD has spoken it. (LDT)

2. The Storm That Was Raging (Contrary winds)

TEXT: Mat 14:24 ²⁴ But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

1-Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. (Devil's on the loose seeking you w/ sickness, disease, poverty, lack, & problems)

1-Peter 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

3. The Saviour That Is Responding (The Lord cares for you that He will do whatever is necessary for you)

TEXT: Matthew 14:25-27 ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

John 16:33 says...in this world you will have tribulations & troubles, but Jesus says be of good cheer, because I have & will overcome them with you. If you believe and you are in Me, you will overcome them too! (LDT)

Hebrews 13:5 (Jesus said) I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.

2-Timothy 4:18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2. THE VIOLATION IN LIFE (The disciples did not do what they had been taught to do)

TEXT: Matthew 14:25-29 ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. ²⁷ But straightway Jesus spoke unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

1. Looking But Not Seeing (v26 and when the disciples saw him) We have got to see Jesus for who He is!

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keeps the law, happy is he.

Isaiah 45:22 Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

Hebrews 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God (by not recognizing God's ability to do for us the things that we can not do on our own); lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you and thereby many be defiled;

Luke 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back (to the old way of living and doing things), is fit for the kingdom of God.

2. Lamenting (crying) But Not Decreeing (We must not just cry, but *HAVE FAITH & PROPHECY OUR DESTINY*) (v26 when they saw Him...they were troubled---thought it was a spirit---cried out for fear)

Mark 11:22-24 And Jesus said, Have faith in God. ²³ For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain (that is in the way), Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he says shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he says. ²⁴ Therefore I say unto you, What things soever you desire, when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you shall have them.

Hebrew 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession (or declaration) of our faith (in a situation) without wavering for He (the Lord) is faithful that promised (to bring it to pass).

3. Listening But Not Hearing (v27 Jesus spoke to them saying be of good cheer---It is I---be not afraid) Hear & Do

Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Mark 4:24 And Jesus said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete (or hear), it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

3. THE VENTURE OF LIFE (We must get out of the boat of those things that contain & restrain us)

TEXT: Matthew 14:28-30 .²⁸ And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.
²⁹ And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.
³⁰ But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

1. Peter's Petition

V28 And Peter said, Lord, if its you, bid me to come to You on the water V29 and Jesus said come.

(The Lord hears us when we cry and helps us when we try)

Psalms 34:17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

1-John 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

2. Peter's Problem

V30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink

(Don't let your troubles ride over you, you stay focused in faith and ride over them)

(When we get our eyes off of Jesus & His Word & focus on the problem—we will sink to the grasp of the devil's trap)

Hebrews 12:2 teaches us that we are to look to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

(Missed Focus = Missed Faith = Messed up Future)

3. Peter's Plea V30 ..Peter cried saying, Lord, save me.

Roman 10:13 For whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Peter was rescued from drowning

Leper was reclaimed from despair Matthew 8:23

Beggar was restored from darkness Mark 8:22

Widow was relieved from difficulty Luke 13:11

Disciples released from doubt John 10:27

Man raised from the dead John chapter 11

4. THE VICTORY FOR LIFE (We are made Kings & Priests & more than Conquerors Romans--- 8:37, Revelation 1:6)

TEXT: Matthew 14:31-33 ³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? ³² And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. ³³ Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

1. The Master's Response

V31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand and caught him

Psalms 34:6 This poor man cried and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

2. The Miracle Recorded

V32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. (When you let Jesus in your boat miracles happen)

Psalms 145:18-19 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon him in truth.¹⁹ He will fulfil the desire of them that fear (or reverence) Him: He also will hear their cry, and will save them.

2-Corinthians 2:14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causes us to triumph in Christ, and makes manifest the savor (or the fragrant realization) of his knowledge by us in every place.

(The Lord is UP PRAYING, DOWN WALKING, OUT REACHING & CATCHING those that will call on Him)

3. The Men's Reverence

V33 ³³ Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, of a truth thou art the Son of God.

John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit (liveliness) and in truth.

Psalms 34:1 I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

1-Thessalonians 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Psalms 34:3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

Psalms 96:4 For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared (or revered) above all gods.

Psalms 100:3 Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

CLOSING: 1-Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 19:26with God all things are possible.

2-Corinthians 4:8-11 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. ¹¹ For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.