# sermonnotes The Miracles of Jesus: Part 5

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."—John 20:31

Following Jesus is not always smooth sailing. Storms happen, but we must never forget who is Lord of the storms.

At times, Jesus sends us into a storm to reveal His person, His power and His provision. So, when you are in a storm look for Jesus.

### John 6:16-21 and Matthew 14:22-32

Water walking is a picture of doing with God's help what we could never do on our .

In Scripture, there is a consistent pattern of what happens in a life when God wants to use and flow through His miraculous power.

- 1. There is always a \_\_\_\_\_.
- God asks an ordinary person to engage in an act of extraordinary trust, like getting out of the boat.

- 2. There is always \_\_\_\_\_.
- God has a consistent habit of asking people to do things that are scary to them and often beyond their ability.
- 3. There is always \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- God always promises His presence as He leads us into the opportunity that is beyond our ability.
- 4. There is always a \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- We must decide whether we will step out in faith or step back in fear. If you want to walk on water, you have to get out of the boat.
- 5. There is always a \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ .
- Those who say yes to God's invitation don't walk the walk perfectly, but as they experience God's power their lives are changed.
- Those who say no to God's invitation are changed, too. They become a little harder, a little more resistant to His calling.

If you want to walk on the water, you've got to get out of the boat. So, what is your "boat"?

Answers: own; call; fear; reassurance; decision; changed life



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#### Read John 6:16-21 and Matthew 14:22-32

In both Gospel accounts the disciples are in a boat (without Jesus), experiencing a terrifying storm that threatens to undo them.

How often do we experience life without Jesus in our boat? When life is calm we can easily be deceived into thinking we can do life without Him. But when a storm comes, we feel vulnerable and immediately see our inability to navigate the storms without His presence.

## How has a past or present storm reminded you of your need for Jesus?

In the early hours of the morning they see Jesus coming towards the boat, walking on the water. They are terrified, but Jesus tells them, "Don't be afraid. Take courage. I am here."—Matthew 14:27 (NLT)

God wants to come to you in the midst of your storm.

## How does the assurance of God's presence bring peace to your heart?

In Matthew's account, Peter steps out of the boat to walk on the water with Jesus. However, when his focus is distracted by the wind and the waves, he begins to sink.

In the current crisis we are facing, what is one practical thing you can implement to help you keep your focus on Jesus?



