



FACE-TO-FACE
WHY DID YOU DOUBT? | MATTHEW 14:22-33
Pastor Mark Owens

Week 1: "Who do you say I am?"

Week 2: "Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?"

Week 3: "Where is your faith?"

Week 4: "Why did you doubt?"

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." ²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." - Matthew 14:22-33

While we are battling doubt, Jesus is praying, watching, pursuing, and reaching out to lift us up.

You can trust that Jesus will not abandon you in the storm.

Why do we face storms in our lives?

- Storms strengthen our faith.
- Storms expose our limitations.

For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. - 2 Corinthians 12:10

Storms prepare us for tomorrow's assignment.

Do you trust Jesus is interceding for you in the storm?

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. - Matthew 14:22-23

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. - Hebrews 7:25



Prayer & Doubt

- Doubt grows where prayer is absent.
- If prayer is not a priority, doubt will be.
- A believer who neglects prayer shouldn't be surprised when doubt takes over.
- When we stop seeking God's presence, we will start questioning God's promises.
- You cannot consistently ignore the voice of God in prayer and expect to feel confident during a storm.

Do you trust Jesus is watching you in the storm?

And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. - Matthew 14:23-24

And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷ And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. ⁴⁸ And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. - Mark 6:46-48

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- Psalm 33:18

Do you trust Jesus is pursuing you in the storm?

And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." ²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. - Matthew 14:25-29

And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. - Matthew 14:25-26

Do you trust Jesus is reaching for you in the storm?

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. - Matthew 14:30-32

Trust Him with the outcome.
Trust Him with your money.
Trust Him with your family.
Trust Him with your future.

While we are battling doubt, Jesus is praying, watching, pursuing, and reaching out to lift us up.

Why do we doubt?