



Walking On Water

“And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea” (Matthew 14:25).

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The life and Ministry of Jesus reveals that **every obstacle becomes a stepping stone to success if we see things correctly and have the right attitude**. This agrees with Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose”.

“And straightway Jesus constrained 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 spake 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” (Matthew 14:22-33. see also Mark 6:45-51 & John 6:15-21).

1) After the multiplication of food to feed the multitudes, Jesus “perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king” (John 6:15), so he dismissed the crowd, sent the disciples away, while he resorted into the mountain alone to pray (Matthew 14:22-23; Mark 6:45-47; John 6:16-17). The ship was caught up in such severe storms that by

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the fourth watch (3 a.m. to 6 a.m.) they had only rowed a maximum of thirty furlongs (3.75 miles) in the lake of Galilee that is 8 miles by 15 miles (Matthew 14:24; Mark 6:48; John 6:18). **Contrary winds may rise in the path of obedience to God.**

- 2) Jesus, seeing their plight came, walking on the water to their rescue. **He did as if He was going to walk pass the boat** (Mark 6:48). **They misinterpreted what they saw to be a ghost and were terrified** and cried out in fear, but Jesus calmed their fear with the words **“It is I, be not afraid”**. (Matthew 14:25-27; Mark 6:48-50; John 6:19-20).
- 3) Peter seized on the opportunity to ask of Jesus “... bid me come unto thee on the water” to which Jesus consented and he did. But on shifting his focus from Jesus to the boisterous winds he started to sink and cried to Jesus who rescued him, following a mild rebuke **“O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?”**, and they both walked into the boat (Matthew 14:28-31).
- 4) Immediately Jesus entered the ship, the wind ceased because the devil knew he had lost the battle. (Matthew 14:32; Mark 6:51; John 6:21). **Spiritual warfares cease when Jesus is in your boat!**
- 5) John noted that “... immediately the ship was at the land whither they went” (John 6:21). What an amazing speed in no time, when they had spent all night for 3.75 miles! Prayer refreshes and produces power (Isaiah 40:31). This teaches us that **taking time to pray is not a waste of time, but hurrying to save time rather than taking the time to pray results in the loss of time.**
- 6) The occupants of the ship were sore amazed, wondered and worshipped Jesus, saying **“of a truth thou art the son of God”** (Matthew 14:33; Mark 6:51).