

Gathering: Unbusy Yourself

Part 7 – Calming Chaos

Matthew 14:22-33 ESV

Pastor Brian Uyeda, December 24, 2025

How do we calm the chaos in our life?

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. – Matthew 14:24-25 ESV

1. We _____ and how far we are from Jesus.

- “..long way from land” = UNSAFE.
- “..beaten by the waves,” = The power of a storm wave quickly reminds us how fragile and POWERLESS we really are.
- “..wind as against them.” = these boats lacked modern engines, they were AT THE MERCY OF the elements.
- “..fourth watch” = 3AM – 6AM, nighttime and the DARKEST, COLDEST and most VULNERABLE moment of the night. This moment in scripture was probably between 3 - 4AM.

Live it out!

Q: What is separating and creating distance from the relationship Jesus wants with me?

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.” – Matthew 14:26-27 ESV

2. We _____ from the things keeping us fearful of Jesus.

“...Do not be afraid” = Jesus wants them to TURN FROM their fear. (1 John 4:18)

Live it out!

Q: What is keeping me fearful of knowing Jesus on a deeper level? What do I need to turn from (repent), so I can turn towards Jesus?

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 14:28-33 ESV

3. We _____ to Jesus’ call to come to him by accepting only He can save us.

Three common types of spiritual opposition to God’s Word (John 1:1-5, Mark 4:13-19):

- Deception: Hardened heart = Satan snatches “the Word” away immediately. “You don’t really need to know Jesus.”
- Deflection: Fearful heart = Persecution criticism & attack / perceived troubles. “I don’t want to be someone I am not; this is too hard.”
- Distraction: Tempted heart = Worries, riches; pleasure. “Why do I need Jesus when my life is fine?”

Our best response to God’s Word (John 1:1-5, Mark 4:20):

- Devotion: Fruitful heart = Hears, understands, perseveres & produces fruit. “I hear, accept and live God’s Word as truth.”

Live it out!

Q: Are you ready for the chaos to cease? Jesus is.