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# Take courage, it is I. Don't be afraid

Mark 6:50

# Life Groups...

We believe that lives are changed and true relationships are formed in circles instead of rows. In other words...when smaller groups get together, face each other and share their lives openly God has a way of helping us see Him more clearly and ourselves. We are more likely to see areas in our lives that we need to allow God to work in. Whether that's healing work, guidance through or joy found...God wants to do that in you. The reality is, God is actually helping us see and be who we already are in Christ. He's not focused on your flaws...He's guiding you step by step to live into His fullness, all that He is and all that He has for you...in Christ. He also helps us see others and live with greater empathy and openness in circles. So keep going. We believe this time with our life groups is one of the most important part of our lives.

#### **Open**

o What fears do you have, if any, when you're out on a boat? ...a for real boat...not a metaphorical boat. ☺

### Dig

- o When you hear the words of Jesus, "Don't be afraid,"..."Take courage! I am here!" (Mark 6:50) what thoughts or feelings does that stir inside you?
- o The source of fears often come from three key areas:
  - Self-doubt
  - o Self-consciousness
  - Self-pity
- With which of these three do you most identify with? Why? What helps you to "take courage" when they rise up?

### Reflect

- In what ways do you your relationships (with God and others) suffer when you allow your fear to control you?
- o What practices might you engage this week to overcome your fears?

#### **Final Thoughts:**

Remember, Jesus is in the boat with you! He invites you to

- 1. Practice looking to the reality of His Presence with you (Psalm 16:8-9)
- 2. Name the fear and move against it

#### Psalm 16:8-9

"I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure."

## **Prayer Requests**

- OP Police and the family of Officer Mike Mosher who was killed in the line of duty last Sunday afternoon
- Family of the perpetrator who was also killed, Phillip Michael Carney
- Wisdom that our community will open safely, and that people will faithfully follow necessary guidelines in doing so
- The economy and those families who have lost their jobs
- Mothers to feel loved and honored today, and always