

FUTURE YOU.



FUTURE YOU, PART 1: FUTURE YOU

It's the New Year. You've got goals. Resolutions. Some will be easy. But there are probably one or two issues that seem too big for you to tackle. What do you do with those? We'll ask a question that can lead you to an answer that just might change everything for you.

BIG IDEA: What would the future you tell you to do?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are you a New Year's resolution person? Why or why not?
2. Are there any resolutions that have been tough for you to accomplish year after year, despite your desire to tackle them?
3. *With your Bible or YouVersion, [read Matthew 14:22-33](#).*

²² Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. ²³ After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone. ²⁴ Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. ²⁵ About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!" ²⁷ But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!" ²⁸ Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." ²⁹ "Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted. ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?" ³² When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. ³³ Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.

[Matthew 14:22-33 \(NLT\)](#)

4. Why do you think Jesus dismissed the disciples so abruptly? What lesson do you think Jesus wanted them to learn—without Him?
5. Peter does what almost everyone would think to be impossible: he walks on water. Is there anything in your life that seems that impossible?
6. When did Peter start to sink? Why then and not earlier? Have you shifted your focus from the Savior to the storm?
7. Look at Jesus' response to Peter when he walked on water; he was frustrated with Peter's lack of faith. What, if anything, is keeping you from believing that all things are possible with Christ?
8. It's been said, "The worst failure is not to sink in the waves but to never get out of the boat." What is your boat? How is fear or comfort keeping you from trusting God? What's one risk you can take that would grow your faith and deepen your experience of God?
9. Why did the wind stop as Peter and Jesus climbed back into the boat, and not before (v 32)? What was Jesus wanting to teach Peter—and us?
10. Of all the things you could do this year, what are 2 or 3 the future you will wish you had done?

MOVING FORWARD

On the postcard we provided, write down a few of your key 2023 goals—some of things the future you would really want you to accomplish. At the end of June, we'll mail it back to you as a reminder of what is truly important as you pass the half-way mark in 2023. You'll be amazed at what you accomplished if you stay prayerful and focused!

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"
Matthew 14:31