



Luke 6:13-16

## I. Getting To Know Simon Peter

### A. His \_\_\_\_\_

- Simon
- Cephas – Aramaic for "Rock"
- Peter (Petros) – Greek for "Rock"

### B. His Home: \_\_\_\_\_

### C. His \_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 8:14; 1 Corinthians 9:5; Mark 1:29-31)

- 'Simon Bar-Jonah' (Matthew 16:17) – "Simon, son of John"
- His brother: Andrew
- His Wife

### D. His Job: \_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 4:18)

### E. His \_\_\_\_\_

(John 1:42; Matthew 4:18-19)

## II. How Jesus Helped Simon Peter Grow In His Faith

### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ Challenge

(Luke 5:1-4)

#### 1. A Reminder of His Old Name

(Luke 22:31; Mark 14:37)

#### 2. You Will Encounter Obstacles That Do Not \_\_\_\_\_

(Luke 5:5a)

#### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ God Even When You Do Not Understand

(Luke 5:5b)

#### 4. See God's \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 5:6-7 "And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink."

## 5. Confess Your Own \_\_\_\_\_

(Job 42:6; Luke 5:8b)

Luke 5:8-10a "But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.' For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon."

Isaiah 6:5 "And I said: 'Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'"

## 6. Embrace God's Purpose for Your Life

(Luke 5:10b-11)

### a. Leave Your Nets Behind

### b. Become A "Fisher of Men"

## B. The \_\_\_\_\_ Challenge

Matthew 14:22-24 "Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them."

### 1. Don't Be \_\_\_\_\_ By the Storms

Matthew 14:25 "And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea."

### 2. Your Eyes May Struggle To See \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 14:26 "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."

### 3. Remember That Christ Will Be \_\_\_\_\_ You

(Matthew 14:27)

Isaiah 43:2-3a "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

### 4. Be A Part Of The \_\_\_\_\_

(Matthew 14:28-29)

### 5. Keep Your \_\_\_\_\_ On Jesus

(Matthew 14:30a)

### 6. Cry To Jesus and He Will Save You

(Matthew 14:30-33)



April 7, 2024

**1. Familiarize Yourself With the Passage and the Gospel**

- a. Read Matthew 14:22-33

**2. Introduction to the Passage (Feel free to use this as a reference guide as you discuss the passage)**

Historical Context: Water was not an item in the ancient world that brought comfort to people. Water was certainly something to be feared. People felt helpless and insecure on the sea, but the sea had religious connotations. The water was one area where the realm of the dead was experienced.<sup>1</sup> Jonah struggled with water for this exact reason when he feared going to the land underwater where the “bars” would close upon him forever (John 2:6). The water represented utter chaos. There is an ancient Jewish book outside Scripture that shows a little bit of the Jewish mindset toward water. “Those who sail the sea tell of its dangers and we marvel at what we hear. In it are strange and marvelous creatures, all kinds of living things, and huge sea-monsters.”<sup>2</sup> It is clear that they feared the sea as it represented death. It was untamable and the Israelites were not skilled at building boats that could handle the sea’s torrents.<sup>3</sup>

Literary Context: The calming of the storm occurred immediately after the feeding of the five thousand and the death of John the Baptist. It is possible that Jesus withdrew to pray because he had just heard about the death of John and was grieving. Or, it could be due to his routine of spending time with the Father in prayer. Either way, communion with the Father was not a side hobby for Jesus, it was where he found strength to fulfill His Father’s will (Mark 1:35, 6:46; Luke 3:21; 6:12).

**3. Questions About the Passage**

- a. Why did Jesus withdraw to pray (Matthew 14:23)? How would this choice affect Peter later in the story?
- b. What moved Peter to say, “if it is you, command me to come to you on the water?”
- c. What caused Peter to start to sink in the water? What is it about faith that would have kept Peter from sinking? (Matthew 14:31)
- d. Read Matthew 8:27 and then read their response in 14:33 about similar situations. What is significant about the change of their understanding of Jesus?

**4. From the Passage to Life**

- a. What fears do you have in your life right now? How is Jesus trying to speak to you in the midst of your fear?
- b. Peter seemed to have faith mixed with doubt in this passage. Are there times in your life when you have experienced faith mixed with doubt? Explain.
- c. It would seem that it was God's will for Peter to experience this storm. Unlike Jonah (John 1:12), this storm was not caused by disobedience. Do you struggle accepting storms that are God's will for your life?
- d. Share a storm you have been through where you gained a greater understanding of Jesus in your life.

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1 Othmar Keel, The Symbolism of the Biblical World: Ancient Near Eastern Iconography and the Book of Psalms (Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1997), 73.

2 Sirach 43:24-25

3 Keel, The Symbolism of the Biblical World, 74.