The Storm

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PETER

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Sometimes <u>God's will</u> sends you into life's <u>headwinds</u>…

*Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowd.…When evening came, He was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. (**Matt. 14:22-24**)*

• **Jesus offers <u>presence</u> over <u>problem-solving</u>** – *"During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw Him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them, 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.'" (**Matt. 14:25-27**)*

*He alone stretches out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea. He is the Maker of the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the constellations of the south. He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted. When He passes me, I cannot see Him; when He goes by, I cannot perceive Him. (**Job 9:8-11**)*

• **The only element that changes in the storm is <u>Peter's faith</u>** – *"'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.' 'Come,' He said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he*

*was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!'" (**Matt. 14:28-30**)*

• A colossal battle in the soul is always <u>unbelief</u> versus <u>belief</u> – *"Immediately Jesus reached out His hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' He said, 'why did you doubt?'" (**Matt. 14:31**)*

*"But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us." "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (**Mark 9:22b-24**)*

God's aim is to turn life's <u>waves</u> into our <u>worship</u> – *"And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'" (**Matt. 14:32-33**)

• When Jesus is in our boat, where we <u>end up</u> may not be where we were <u>headed</u> – *"Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of Him to Bethsaida, while He dismissed the crowd…When they crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret." (**Mark 6:45; Matt. 14:34**)*

*"The Lord will keep you from all harm – He will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore." (**Psalm 121:7-8**)*