



**Matthew 14:22-36 [Mk.6:45-52; Jn.6:16-21]**

~ Mt. 8:23-27 ~

<sup>22</sup> Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

Space to be Alone – for Encounter

Jesus sent them into something challenging

<sup>25</sup> Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” <sup>28</sup> “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” <sup>29</sup> “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

Jesus goes up, but doesn't stay on the mountaintop,  
He is back down with the people

Tell me to Come – Come – He came

<sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

What is your wind?    What makes you doubt the presence of Jesus?

<sup>31</sup> Immediately, Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” <sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

“The better we see Him, the better we understand who we are.

– Dr. Rodney Reeves, *The Story of God: Matthew* (2017)

Our faith grows through our relationship with Jesus – the good and the bad, the courageous faith and the doubting cries. One’s Faith may not be exactly where it should be, but in each instance we face with Jesus, we learn how to walk further and further

<sup>34</sup> When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. <sup>35</sup> And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him <sup>36</sup> and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

When they all come out, the disciples and we, as readers, must realize the people have no idea who they are dealing with. They just wanted healing. But when a man who walks on water reaches out his hand to grab you and pull you up from death – that’s an entirely different kind of miracle and a Jesus we need to come to know and worship.

– Dr. Rodney Reeves, (2017)

Application

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