

Pastor Jim Jackson, 8/24/25
Days With Jesus, Day 15—Walking On The Water
John 6:16-21

The disciples WITNESS a miracle

After miraculously feeding 12-15,000 people, Jesus goes to pray and sends his disciples to Capernaum on the other side of the lake. This miracle of creating food for the hungry crowd showed the disciples that God was involved in every issue of life. If God cares for the small moments, He is there for every moment! *Jesus can be trusted with our minor concerns* (Matt. 6:31-33; Phil. 4:19)!

The disciples NEED a miracle

The 12 disciples get into the boat as the cool evening air is arriving. The Sea of Galilee is about 7 miles across and 700 feet *below* sea level. This scenario can create sudden storms as cold eastern air rushes onto the lake in minutes, creating deadly conditions. Any boat too far from shore can be blown to the middle of the lake, capsizing it, and killing the sailors. *Jesus can be trusted with our major concerns*. As the disciples head to Capernaum, a storm pushes them to the middle of the lake. At 3 a.m., after rowing for about 7 hours, they know they are going to die. The waves were so violent against the boat, the Gr. word means ‘to torture’ (Matt. 14:24). They have gone from the high point of the best day of their lives to the low of the sheer terror of death. *Jesus can be trusted on your best day, worst day, first day, or last day!*

The disciples get a miracle WORKER

Seeing the disciples struggling, Jesus walks to them on the water. As God, he suspends the Law of Gravity (and any other laws of physics!) and meets his disciples at their time of need. *Jesus can be trusted to meet our inability with his ability!* Jesus’ point wasn’t to ‘show off’ but to put their faith in him *as God* to the test. The disciples were so scared, they thought Jesus was a ghost (Matt. 14:22-33; Mark 6:48). Though Jesus is coming to save them all, Peter foolishly offers to come to Jesus on the water, choosing to trust in a potential ghost while leaving the others to die. As he walks on the water, he lacks faith and starts to sink. In mercy, Jesus saves him and then rebukes him. Dragging him to the boat, Jesus gets in and stops the storm, and the disciples worship him. It's one thing to make bread to feed people, it's another to control nature to save people! *Jesus can be trusted as God to do the things only God can do!*