

# Free Indeed

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Our Purpose: To be a community of believers where, no matter who you are, you can experience life change through Jesus Christ.

## **We're not as free as we think we are.**

*22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but the boat by this time was a long way[a] from the land,[b] beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night[c] he came to them, walking on the sea. 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. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."*

*28 And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind,[d] he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."*

—Matthew 14:22-33 ESV

## **What's more unbelievable:**

*The fact that Peter stepped out of the boat or  
The fact that the other 11 did not?*

*Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters,[a] of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. 2 It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.[b]*

*3 I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. 4 He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. 5 He was seen by Peter[c] and then by the Twelve. 6 After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers[d] at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7 Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.*

*—1 Corinthians 15:1-8*

*And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless.*

*—1 Corinthians 15:14 NLT*

*And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.*

*—1 Corinthians 15:19 NLT*

*You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.*

*—1 John 4:4 NIV*

*What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

*—Romans 8:31 NIV*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.*

*—Romans 8:37 NIV*

*But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) 10 And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life[d] because you have been made right with God. 11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.*

—Romans 8:9-11

*Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

—John 8:34-36 NIV

**Your life will always be a reflection of what you allow yourself to believe.**

*Some of us just don't know.*

*Some of us just don't care.*

*Some of us are just hurting really bad.*

*Some of us are afraid to hurt again.*

**So, how long you are you going to sit around until you dry off?**

**The best thing you can do is stop focusing on your sinking and start focusing on your Savior.**

**Are you free ..... then step off that boat!**