

Big Rocks (Week 3)

Matthew 6:33-34

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 14:22-32

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray.

Life makes it hard for us to maintain FOCUS.

Matthew 14:22-32 cont.

Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

Life is full of WIND and WAVES.

Matthew 14:22-32 cont.

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."

Fear cannot EXIST in the PRESENCE of God!

Matthew 14:22-32 cont.

"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!"

CIRCUMSTANCES will CONSUME us if they are the focus.

Matthew 14:22-32 cont.

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.

God is not BOTHERED by your MESS.

Matthew 14:22-32 cont.

Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

His KINGDOM and HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS are all that matter!

Talk it Over:

1. What are things that life throws your way that seem to keep your attention?
2. Share a time you were so frustrated and tired that you just wanted to sit down and quit... or cry. We all respond differently!
3. Read Matthew 14:22-32 together. Share what stands out to you in the text in light of today's message. Why do you think Jesus would go into such detail in trying to make His point here?
4. Is there something that we can pray for you about this week? Take time to share and pray for one another.

Take a Deeper Look:

This section is dedicated to those who want to explore and study the Bible more deeply. Set aside some time with your Bible and a notebook and no distractions (you can use digital devices too - just put 'em in airplane mode for 30 minutes). Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something - GO BE THE CHURCH!

Read Matthew 13-16

- Take some time to bullet point outline these chapters and what you read.
- Underline or highlight some of the BIG concepts you see in these chapters. What catches your attention most?

- Looking at Matthew 13 (Jesus teaching) what does Jesus seem to be emphasizing most? What do you see Jesus trying to make most clear?
- When you read Matthew 14, what are the circumstances and stresses that would have caused Jesus to need to head to the mountain to pray?
- Looking at Matthew 13-16, Jesus is deep in the middle of his ministry and teaching on earth. If you were to try and communicate what was happening and what He was teaching from this text (to someone who's never heard any of this)... how would you summarize it?