

HOPE RISES US UP!

Hope Encourages Us In Storms

11-15-20

Hope is theological; hope is personal trust in God. Hope is what you think God can do.

- Miracles are to _____ my _____ which increases my _____.

Mark 6:45-52 - **Immediately** Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and **go on ahead** of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ After leaving them, **he went up on a mountainside to pray.** ⁴⁷ When **evening** came, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ **He saw the disciples straining at the oars**, because the **wind was against them.** About the fourth watch of the night **he went out to them, walking on the lake.** He was about to **pass by them,** ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. **They cried out,** ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! **It is I.** Don't be afraid." ⁵¹ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵² for they had not understood about **the loaves**; their hearts were hardened.

I feel like I'm sinking when:

Matthew 14:22-33, Mark 6:45-52, John 6:15-21

- I can't see _____ way.
John 6:17a - By now **it was dark** . . .
- I feel I'm on my _____.
John 6:17b - Jesus had not yet joined them

- I feel I'm out of my _____ zone.
Mark 6:47 - the boat was **in the middle** of the lake
Matthew 14:24 - They were a **long way from shore**
- I feel a strong _____ against me.
Matthew 14:24b - **tossed around and battered** by waves
John 6:18 - the **waters grew rough!**
Mark 6:48 - the wind was **against** them
- I'm struggling, but I'm _____.
Mark 6:48 - He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them.

What does Jesus do when I'm sinking?

1. He _____ my struggles.

Mark 6:48 - He saw the disciples **straining** at the oars, because the wind was against them.

2. He _____ at my moment of desperation.

Mark 6:48 - "About the **fourth watch** of the night **he went out to them**, walking on the lake."

- Jesus is making a point here: I just want you guys to know that whatever is over your head is under my feet.

3. He _____ me His true identity.

Mark 6:49-50 - but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! **It is I**. Don't be afraid."

What should I do if I'm sinking?

1) Have courage because _____ is with me.

Mark 6:50 - "Jesus said to them 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid!'"

2) Take a _____ in faith.

Matthew 14:28-29 - "'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water!'
²⁹ 'Come,' Jesus said. So Peter **got out of the boat**, walked on the water and came toward Jesus."

- It is safer to be with Jesus out of the boat than in the boat without Jesus.

3) Stay _____ on Jesus.

Matthew 14:30 - But when he **saw** the **wind**, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

4) Don't _____.

Matthew 14:31 - "Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'Why did you doubt?'"

5) Praise God.

Matthew 14:32-33 - And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Take home truths:

- That Jesus can **do** anything.
- That Jesus is **all** you need.
- That faith is the **answer** to a sinking life.