**“Water-walkers”**

Going deeper in Matthew 14:24-33

**INTRODUCTION**

Jesus has just finished the miracle of the feeding the five thousand with five fishes and two loaves of bread. He dismissed the crowd and compelled the disciples to get in the boat and head for the other side of the sea (Sea of Galilee). He then heads up the mountain to be alone and pray.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 24 The boat was far out to sea when the wind became hostile and the waves began to torment the boat. 25 About four o’clock in the morning He went to them walking on the sea. 26 They saw Him walking on the sea and they were scared to death. They said, “It is a ghost!” crying out in terror. 27 Jesus was quick to say, “Have courage. It is I. Don’t be afraid.” 28 Peter said, “Lord, if it is really you, call me to come to you on the water.” 29 Jesus said, “Come.” Peter climbed down out of the boat and walked on water to Jesus. 30 When he saw the strong wind he was overcome with fear and started to drown. He cried out, “Lord save me!” 31 Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him and said, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” 32 When Peter and Jesus climbed into the boat, the wind stopped. 33 The disciples in the boat worshipped Him saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. If Jesus as Son of God knew that a storm would be coming why would he “compel” the disciples to get into the boat? Why might Jesus send you into a storm?

2. Why would it be important to know they were far out to sea?

3. What was the storm like? How would you have felt if you were in the boat?

4. How has Jesus been there for you in your storm?

5. Why does Jesus tell them to have courage rather than commanding the storm to stop? According to Jesus why should they not be afraid?

6. The word for “overcome” in verse 30 means “to rule.” What “rules’ your life?

7. When it comes to living generously and stepping out in faith in regards to giving what do you feel the Lord is calling you to do in this coming year?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*If there are “storms” in your life or in the lives of people around you tell Jesus about it.”

\*Praise the Lord that He is the Lord over storms.

\*Ask the Lord to give you the courage to step out of the boat and into the storm.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

The Lord of the storms has called to you. Will you step out in courage to follow Him where He calls you to go this week?