

# RESCUE STORY

Life Group Discussion Questions – March 22, 2020

Part 2.0 Rescued from FEAR Matt. 14:22-33

## Three Truths to Remember in Uncertain Times

### Jesus CARES for you!

- Jesus cares for Peter when the winds of DIFFICULTY blew the strongest!
- God's PEOPLE don't respond to cultural crises the way CULTURE responds to cultural crises.

### Jesus WALKS with you! vs. 22-27

- Jesus SENDS the team ahead of Him
- Something unexpected and UNPRECEDENTED takes place
- This experience brought emotional PANIC
- Jesus REASSURES them of His presence
- Moving from TERRIFIED to Taking COURAGE!

### Jesus EQUIPS you to be brave vs. 28-33

- Peter's RISKY request
- Peter's EARLY success
- Peter needs to be RESCUED
- Peter's core necessity: FAITH
  - Faith in His PATH for you
  - Faith in His PRESENCE with you
  - Faith in His EQUIPPING of you

*Matthew 14:26-28 When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."*

### QUICK REVIEW

1. In what ways has the works of God been displayed through you? How would those that know you well answer the question?
2. Like Jonah, was there a time in your life when you attempted to go beyond God's guardrails for your life? How can your deliverance from this circumstance be an encouragement to another that is in a similar place?

### MY STORY

1. Worry and anxiety is an everyday struggle for so many and in light of a global pandemic it's easy for fear to establish a foothold. Who do you know that struggles with worry? On a scale of 1 (no worries) to 10 (worry is running my life!) where do you fall right now? What score would you have given yourself a month ago? How can you move your worry meter closer to "1"?
2. Typically, most people don't like to be told what to do. However, there can be something safe and comforting about being guided. How do you generally respond to guidance or authority? What are some of the general areas we know God is guiding us in? Do you feel there is something specific God is guiding you to right now?
3. God can also use us as a guide for those around us. How can we cultivate a Life Group that not only learns together but intentionally guides each other? In what ways can you guide a neighbor or meet their needs during this season of upheaval?

### GOING DEEP (read Matthew 14:22-33)

1. In God's Word, we are commanded by God to "not be afraid" 365 times. What do the following verses reveal about choosing to trust God rather than the challenges we face?
  - Psalm 23:4 • Psalm 27:1 • Isaiah 43:1-4 • Hebrews 13:5-6
2. Re-read Matthew 14:26. Where did the disciples' fear originate from? Discuss the idea that fear comes from the unknown.
3. If you were one of the disciples battling the storm in the boat, what questions or thoughts do you think would've run through your mind? Seeing Jesus, would you have been like the 11 who didn't budge or would you have emulated Peter in some way? Explain.
4. Do you think making a decision to take your requests to God could reduce your anxiety? Why or why not? Have a few people in the group, who have seasoned prayer habits, share about how they make prayer a regular feature of their day.

### PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for you to remember?

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