

“TRUSTING GOD, EVEN IF...”

DANIEL 3 & MATTHEW 14

HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO/WHAT TO TRUST?

DANIEL 3
(V. 18) “ONLY IF” VS. “EVEN IF” TRUST

MATTHEW 14:22-33

CALL OUT TO JESUS.

TAKE A STEP TOWARD JESUS.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS.

PETER EVENTUALLY LEARNED TO TRUST, “EVEN IF...”
HOW ABOUT YOU?

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Life Group Discussion Questions – April 18, 2021

Matthew 14:30 *But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and when he began to sink, he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!”*

DISCOVER

1. Read Matthew 14:22-33 as if you never heard the story before. What things immediately jump out to you? Why?
2. What kinds of thoughts do you think were going through the disciples' minds as they battled the storm? (see John 6:15-21)

EXPLORE

1. Why does Jesus come to the disciples walking on the water? What is significant about this?
2. Why do you think Jesus waited until the fourth watch (close to daybreak) before He went out to help His disciples?
3. What do you think was the precise moment that Peter began to sink after the Lord already allowed him to walk on water and come to Him? What can we infer about Peter's faith? How have you seen this play out in your own life when you are walking through difficult seasons?
4. Re-read v. 33. What did the disciples do when they witnessed this miracle? Do you respond in the same way or are you simply in awe when God works a miracle in your circumstance? What kinds of miracles do we typically fail to worship God for?

EXPERIENCE

1. A common takeaway from this passage is: “You better not take your eyes off Jesus or you're going to sink and perish.” Compare that to the fact that Jesus always has His eyes on us even when we take our eyes off of Him. In what practical ways should this truth impact our life choices? (see Hagar's story in Genesis 16:1-13)
2. Describe the process you have for ultimately deciding who or what to trust. How do you arrive at a critical decision when it needs to be made at a moment's notice?
3. How does our doubt become a limiting factor for our faith to work? Conversely, what kinds of things strengthen our faith? What steps can you take to strengthen your faith today? How can your Life Group help you to do this?
4. Re-read v. 27. Why did Jesus first dispel the disciples' fears? Why is it so important to **choose to allow** the Word of God to comfort us? Memorizing scripture gives us the opportunity to remember who God is, what He has done, and what He promises to do.

PRAY/ACTION

Pray... that God would grant us the grace to worship Him in spirit and truth; that we would know His eyes are never off us and that we would recognize that He is here among us to dispel our fears. Pray that we would have the courage to step out in faith and have confidence to follow Him wherever He leads.
Action...commit to memorizing three new scriptures this week and then sharing them with your Life Group.