

08-13-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Just as Jesus stepped into the storm with the disciples, we can count on Jesus to be with us through our difficulties—enabling us to face our fear with faith. We are not able to control the storms of life, but neither do we need to get caught up in fearing them.”

- Sharon Williams



Matthew 14:22-33

Questions for Reflection —

- What challenging seasons have you faced over the years? Were you able to discern God’s presence with you during those times? Why or why not? What storms are you presently facing? What (e.g. personal struggles, church-related matters, societal concerns) causes you to feel like you are sinking? Amid those challenges what will enable you to keep your focus on Jesus? What do you need in order to replace fear and/or doubt with faith? How do you experience the calm peace offered by Jesus in the midst of chaos?

- How do you react to unexpected situations which necessitate a shift in your time, energy, and focus? How do you cope with sudden demands placed on you for the sake of caring for and showing compassion to others? Do you have a quiet place where you can spend time with God, especially when you feel overwhelmed or on the verge of burnout? What spiritual practices help you to deepen your relationship with God?

- What would “walking on water” look like for you? What is the dream or vision that might seem impossible and yet has been planted deep within? What would it mean for you to embrace a risk-taking faith? What fears or doubts are holding you back? What will enable you to go all-in for the sake of God’s mission and call in your life?

Daily Household Prayer

O creator and mighty God, you have promised strength for the weak, rest for the laborers, light for the way, grace for the trials, help from above, unfailing sympathy, undying love.
O creator and mighty God, help us to continue in your promise. Amen.