

Matthew Series: *The Majestic Messiah*
***Eye of the Storm* - Matthew 14:22-33**

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REFLECT AND DISCUSS

Warm-up. When have you been paralyzed between waves of turmoil and doubt and trusting God's word and moving forward?

Read Matthew 14:22-33. God bless your study!

1. After multiplying the loaves and fish, Jesus told his disciples to go to the other side of the lake (14:22). Why did he want his disciples to leave (John 6:14-15)? What did Jesus do next and why is this so important for us (14:23)?
2. What picture is portrayed for us concerning the disciples serious predicament when comparing all the gospel accounts (Matthew 14:24-25; Mark 6:47-48; John 6:16-19)? How is this second storm different from the first storm in Matthew (ch. 8)?
3. Why is it that we're prone to think that if we are obedient, living right, we shouldn't experience hardships? How can we move past this erroneous mindset (Hint: "storms of correction and storms of perfection.")?
4. What frightened the disciples, who were seasoned sailors? What did Jesus say to them and why is this so significant?
5. Once Peter realized it was Jesus, and not an ominous ghost, what did he request (14:28-31)? What can we learn from this?
6. Explain the following statement: The most important thing is not the size of our faith, but the object of our faith. Discuss, as well, the difference between merely knowing about Jesus and responding experientially in faith by coming to him, trusting him.
7. What significant confession did the disciples make after this event (14:33)? What can we do to daily keep our eyes fixed on Christ? How does it help to know that his eye is ever on you even when you take your eyes off him?
8. What "storms" are you facing and how would you like others to be praying for you and or your loved ones at this time?