

Message Summary

Faith is about more than just believing in God. It's an action that often feels risky and bold. The good news is that, even when our faith is lacking, we can have hope that Jesus is always near to us.

Key Scripture

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." Matthew 14:25-33 NIV

Additional Scriptures

- Matthew 14:22-24 NIV
- Ephesians 2:8 NIV
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV
- Hebrews 11:6 NIV

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- On a scale of 1-10, how much do you enjoy taking risks?

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What are some things that keep people from taking risks?
- Read **Matthew 14:25-33**. What does it look like to know God? How can knowing Him help you fight fear?

Start Sharing

Choose a question to create openness.

- When was the last time you took a bold risk of faith? How did that impact your relationship with God?
- Is there an area of your life where you've been playing it too safe? How can you take a step of faith this week?

Start Praying

Heavenly Father, sometimes we want our faith to be comfortable, safe, and calm. But the life of Your Son shows us that faith often requires bold, risky steps. Please build our trust in You as we find ways to put our faith in action this week. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start Doing

- Spend time reading about other stories of faith from the Bible: www.go2.lc/faithstories
- Start the Bible Plan *How to Overcome Fear* using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/fearplan
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.