

DON'T DOUBT

Immediately Jesus reached out His hand, caught hold of him and said to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” - Matthew 14:31

The irony of Matthew 14:31 is striking. Two verses prior, Jesus tells Peter to climb out of a boat and Peter becomes the only man other than Jesus himself to walk on water.

Then Peter shifts his attention. Instead of keeping his eyes on Jesus, he starts to look around at his circumstances. “But when he saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid. And beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord save me!” – (Matthew 14:30)

Can you identify with this sense of panic? I know I can. I left the comfort of my new marriage and full-time job with benefits for a new baby and calling that I wasn't confident would pay me.

Perhaps you too left a well-paying job to pursue a God given calling and now you're being hit with unexpected financial burdens. Maybe you moved to a new town and the first few weeks were exciting but now you're realizing you don't know anybody.

You may even be in the midst of expanding your family. Initially you felt prepared, but now as you think of all the change this will bring, you're second guessing your decision. Whatever your storm or circumstances may be, you've taken your eyes off of God and you're starting to sink – back into those old habits, back into depression and fear, back into doubt and disbelief.

Whenever we are met with uncertainty we have two choices, we can focus on the Father or we can focus on our fears. Focusing on our fear will keep us frozen and ill equipped to take on our next assignment, but focusing on the Father is how we experience the peace that surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:7).

Even when it seems like the waves are crashing around us God is still working all things together for our good and His glory (Romans 8:28). So, if He's calling you to climb out of the boat, rest assured He'll be right alongside you to keep you from sinking. Trade your doubt for determination and we'll all bypass the irony.

Prayer: Dear God, please help me to avoid the temptation to doubt you. I pray my desire to walk on water on a regular basis will refresh my boldness.

Question: When are you most likely to doubt God and how can you avoid those types of situations?

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