

LITERALLY WALKING BY FAITH

1. Text: Matthew 14:24-33
2. The Sea of Galilee
3. Text: great passage on walking by faith (II Corinthians 5:7) And literally that is exactly what happens.
4. Four ideas coupled with faith comes to us in the passage:

I. **Faith And The Sea**

1. Peter starts with good heart.
2. Not a dare, but fellowship, companionship with Lord. He is not rebuked but encouraged.
3. He could have stayed in boat like most folks. But here is an exciting adventure and challenge. Faith defying the forces of nature. Time of miracles past but not of faith.
4. Hebrews 11:6 Impossible to please God without it.
5. Mark 9:23 If you can believe, all things are possible.
6. James 2:17 Faith without action is dead.
7. So far so good for Peter who actually walks on the sea's water.

II. **Faith And The Storm**

1. Verse 30: he saw the wind. (Eyes off Jesus)
2. Sea was boisterous (rough, stormy, violent) (verse 30) But it was before he stepped out of the boat (verse 24)
3. What happened? Fear (verse 30, but see 26,27) He was afraid and began to sink. Fear destroys faith.
4. High seas in midst of storm is no place for faint hearted.
5. Habbakkuk 2:4 The just shall live by faith.
6. James 1:6 Ask in faith, nothing doubting, like waves of the sea.
7. Matthew 8:13 As you have believed, so let it be done for you.
8. Hebrews 3:12 Evil heart of unbelief
9. Faith and realism. Don't listen to faithless. Need of hour.

III. **Faith And The Supporting Hand**

1. How far did Peter walk? We don't know. Must be some distance.
2. How close was he when he began to sink? So close, yet so far away. Jesus simply stretched out His hand and caught him.
3. Thomas Edison: Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.
4. Israel in the wilderness
5. The Rich Young Man: What must I do to inherit eternal life?
6. Matthew 16:8-10 Faith and bread
7. Matthew 13:58 Because of their unbelief, He did not do many miracles there.

IV. **Faith And the Son Of God**

1. Peter did not utterly fail. When he began to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me." And, of course, He did.
2. The Lord's question, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" That's a searching question. It demands an answer from all of us.
3. When Christ and Peter enter the boat the others came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."
4. That confession is the real climax of the incident. It's the first time the disciples give Him the full title.
5. John 20:30-31 says what was written concerning Jesus was for belief.

Conclusion:

**A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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