

Faith That Overcomes Fears

Matthew 14:22-33 | Rev. Victor Ramoy

Discussion Questions

1. What is your biggest fear? How are you dealing with it?
2. Matthew 14:22-33 is an account of a defining moment for the disciples of Jesus Christ, when they witnessed the power that is in His hands. Read the passage and discuss the following principles that describe the kind of faith that overcomes fear:

Faith that RECOGNIZES GOD'S DIVINE WISDOM, believing that He knows where you are (v. 22-24). What did Jesus intentionally instruct His disciples to do and why? What lesson would Jesus be teaching His disciples from this experience? What comes to your mind when God allows you to be in a difficult situation and you can't seem to understand why He would do that? How do you recognize God's divine wisdom in difficult times?

Faith that RELIES ON GOD'S DIVINE CARE AND PROTECTION, trusting that He comes and helps you at His right time (v. 25-26). Describe the weather condition at-sea during this time that scared even professional fishermen like the disciples? What did Jesus do to join them that caused them to be more afraid? What does Matthew 19:26 say about God that should remind us of His character in the midst of difficult situations? How does fear affect you? How do you run to God in situations when fear seems to overwhelm you?

Faith that RESTS ON GOD'S DIVINE PRESENCE, realizing that His presence with us is the basis to carry on even in the midst of life's most terrifying situations (v. 27). In the midst of fear, how did Jesus calm His disciples? In dealing with fear, how does the assurance that God is there with you affect you? Share an experience that led you to trust in Jesus, as if hearing Him say, "be of good cheer, it is I, do not be afraid."

Faith that RESPONDS TO GOD'S DIVINE POWER, acknowledging that He rightfully deserves our utmost obedience and wholehearted worship (v. 28-33). What was Peter's bold request to Jesus that showed his remarkable faith in Him? What made his faith falter? What did Jesus do when Peter started to sink? Why do people of faith sometimes doubt and waver in their trust in God? But in spite of those doubting moments, how can you still grow in your faith, wholeheartedly walking with Him in obedience and worship?

Reflect & Respond

What does your faith look like? Does it recognize God's divine wisdom, rely on His divine care and protection, rest on His divine presence, and respond to His divine power? As a child of God, how are you demonstrating your faith as you live your life? What would help you to keep your eyes on Jesus and off your fears?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I recognize that nothing is impossible to You because You are God! Thank You for the promise that You will always be there for Your children. Thank You that in spite of the seemingly difficult situations or problems that I see myself fall into, You are there to catch me and hold my hands. May You continue to instill in me a faith that overcomes my fears. In Jesus' name. Amen.