



Jesus Walks on Water/Experience

4th Confirmation Class Handout

4th Confirmation Class Handout October 17, 2010

READ MT 14:22-32

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. 25 And early in the morning Jesus came walking toward them on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." 28 Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29 Jesus said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. 30 But when Peter noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped Jesus, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

NOTES:

- A perspective to consider about this story is that the sea was a symbol that the Israelites (those hearing this story for the first time) would understand as "chaos."
- Jesus isn't just walking on top of water, then. He's also walking above chaos.
- Continuing with this idea, Peter stays above the chaos when keeping his eyes on Jesus, but once Peter starts looking at the chaos, then he sinks into it.

Weekly Challenge

Think of and identify some things that you believe, but you would like to somehow experience so that you can cement that belief into an experienced fact.