



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 22

JESUS WALKED ON WATER

Jesus, truly the Son of God, is worthy of our worship.



MONDAY

THE STORY: MATTHEW 14:22,23

Jesus is our example in prayer. Prior to facing Satan, who tempted Jesus, Jesus fasted and prayed. After leaving a crowd who desired to make Him king, Jesus prayed. His retreat to pray is an example of his determination to obey the Father's plan and not yield to the desires of those who would want to make Him King for their own selfish purpose. In Hebrews we learn that Jesus was tempted just like us in every way, but He did not sin (Hebrews 4:15). Jesus' example should guide us in our fight against the sins that tempt us. Jesus prayed. We have no greater weapon than prayer and fellowship with God. God's plan for our lives is always better than some other plan that may arise to tempt us.

TALK ABOUT IT:

What did Jesus do when the people wanted to make him a king? (He left them to pray.)

What can we learn from Jesus' example? (When faced with temptation, we need to pray like Jesus did.)

How can praying to God help us fight temptation? (Temptation offers us fleeting, worldly pleasure. When we pray to God or read His Word, we realize that eternal

pleasures are in Christ. With those realities in clear view, and with the help of God's power, we can overcome temptation.)

PRAY:

Ask God to help us grow in our practice of prayer.



TUESDAY

THE STORY: MATTHEW 14:24-32

Jesus walked on water and saved Peter. Peter opened his mouth and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." Jesus told him to come. To Peter's credit, he got out of the boat and started to walk toward Jesus. As soon as Peter became afraid and doubted, he began to sink and called out to the Lord to save him. Jesus, without hesitation, reached out and caught him. Jesus stands ready to catch us as well. We simply need to call out to Jesus with the very same words Peter did: "Lord, save me!"

TALK ABOUT IT:

How are we like Peter in this story? (We sometimes start out trusting God, only to doubt when a trial comes. In those trials we should turn to the Lord and ask for help.)

Can you remember a time when you were faced with a trial and were afraid? (Parents, this would be a great opportunity to share a testimony from your own lives. When your children see that you need the Lord and that you are sometimes afraid, they will be encouraged to follow your example.)

PRAY:

Thank the Lord for saving us and protecting us.



WEDNESDAY
WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?

THE STORY: MATTHEW 14:33

Jesus was no ordinary man. He was more than a great teacher. Jesus was, and is, God. When the disciples on the boat saw Jesus walk on the stormy waves, they worshipped Him as God. Little did they know that this same Jesus, who had power over the wind and the waves, who could walk on water and heal all the sicknesses of those who came to Him, would soon die on the cross for their sins.

In this story, Peter cried out, “Lord, save me.” His words were more profound than he could realize. In our lives, the storm is one of our own sin. We are separated from God and need to cry out with those same words: “Lord, save me.” Just like with Peter, the Lord extends His hand to save and deliver us safely to the shore of heaven.

TALK ABOUT IT:

How are our lives today like Peter walking on the waves? (Like Peter, we need Jesus to save us.)

Why is the disciples’ worship of Jesus significant? (Their worship of Jesus signified that they believed Him to be God the Son versus just a good teacher, a kind man, or a magician. The demons on the other side of the lake had called Jesus the Son of God. Now the disciples believed and affirmed that Jesus “truly” was the Son of God.)

PRAY:

Take time to exalt the Lord in praise and words of worship.



THURSDAY

THE STORY: MATTHEW 14:34-36

Once reaching the shore, Jesus continued to heal the sick. Even those who touched him were healed. Mark records that wherever Jesus went, people brought the sick, and all who touched Jesus were healed (Mark 6:56).

TALK ABOUT IT:

What do we learn about Jesus from this passage? (Not only is Jesus all-powerful, but He is full of love and compassion for those who are sick and need His help.)

Should we still pray for those who are sick today? Why? (Yes! Jesus had such compassion on those who are suffering in Scripture, and so we can have faith that he will have compassion on those who are sick today because He never changes. When we pray, we are like the people who are bringing the sick on mats to Jesus.)

PRAY:

Take time to lift up to the Lord anyone who is in need of healing and ask Him to heal them.



FRIDAY ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

THE STORY: ISAIAH 53:4

Matthew connected this passage to Christ in Matthew 8:17. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy in the way He healed those with diseases. Physical healing, like spiritual healing, is possible because of the mercy and grace of God.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Look up Matthew 8:14-17. Did Jesus only heal to fulfill the prophecy? (No. The prophecy describes the care and character of God as one who is compassionate and loving. God is a healing God. That is who He is.)

Why did Isaiah say that he was “stricken by God”? (Those who were crucified were cursed by God. In Jesus, case, Jesus was stricken with God’s wrath for our sin.)

PRAY:

Continue to pray for those you know are sick.