

Big Picture Faith
Peter — Faith That Walks Toward Jesus
Despite Fear
Matthew 14:28-31
August 16, 2026 AM
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1

Introductory Thoughts

Storms have a way of revealing what we really believe.

The disciples were experienced fishermen, but this storm was stronger than their skill.

Peter sees Jesus and says words that still echo with courage and trembling.

Peter steps out of the boat — not because the storm is calm, not because he feels brave, not because he understands what is happening — but because Jesus is calling.

2

Introductory Thoughts

Peter teaches us that faith is not the absence of fear; it is the decision to move toward Jesus in the middle of fear.

This story is not about Peter's failure — it is about Jesus' faithfulness.

3

Faith Responds to Jesus' Call Even in the Storm - Verse 28

Peter does not move until Jesus speaks.

Faith begins with hearing Jesus, not with self-confidence.

The storm does not stop Jesus from calling — and it should not stop us from responding.

Faith moves because Jesus calls, not because conditions are safe.

4

Faith Steps Out When Others Stay in the Boat - Verse 29

Eleven disciples stayed where it was safe.

Peter stepped into the impossible.

Faith requires action — a willingness to leave comfort for obedience.

You cannot walk on water while holding onto the boat.

5

Faith Walks Strong When Our Eyes Are on Jesus - Verse 29

Peter does the impossible as long as he looks at Jesus.

Focus determines faith.

Fear grows when we stare at the storm instead of the Savior.

Where you look determines how you walk.

6

Fear Makes Us Sink, But Jesus Makes Us Stand - Verse 30

Fear didn't start the storm — it started the sinking.

Peter's problem wasn't the waves; it was his focus.

Even sinking faith is still faith if it cries out to Jesus.

Fear may shake your steps, but it cannot stop Jesus from saving you.

7

Jesus Lifts Us Up When Our Faith Falters - Verse 31

Jesus does not shame Peter — He saves him.

Jesus meets sinking disciples with rescuing grace.

The hand of Jesus is stronger than the storm around you.

Faith is not about never sinking — it is about knowing Who to call when you do.

8

Closing Remarks

Peter walked toward Jesus in the middle of fear.

He stepped out when others stayed in.

He sank, but he also cried out.

And Jesus caught him.

**Faith that walks toward Jesus despite fear
becomes faith that discovers Jesus is stronger
than the storm.**