

The Sound of Grace

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

Also: Mark 6:45-53; John 6:16-21

Discussion Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. Did anything resonate with you from the message? Did anything not resonate?
3. What are some storms that you have encountered?
4. In what ways has Jesus shown up in your storm?
5. During the sermon, it was noted that Jesus *sees us* in the storm.
 - In Mark 6:48, Jesus sees the disciples in the storm from far away. What does that imply about His presence in our lives in the *midst* of storms?
 - Have you experienced times when your storm hasn't been calmed?
 - Does that (the reality that He doesn't always calm every storm) change what you think about God? Why or why not?
6. The disciples are most scared when Jesus shows up (Matthew 14:26; Mark 6:49-50; John 6:19). In fact, the texts don't even mention them being afraid before Jesus showed up.
 - What were they afraid of?
 - What insight does the *timing* of their fear give about to Jesus' instructions: "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."
 - Think through this idea: what if our fear has more to do with a misunderstanding of who Jesus is (His nature and character), and less to do with our circumstances?
 - Is that concept true? Why or why not?
 - If so, how does that connect with your current circumstances?
7. Is there any area of your life you feel led to step out in faith?
 - If so, what is the next step?

Thank God for His presence with us in the storm, His ability to calm it (whether he does or not), and for His gentle words, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."