

## The Believers Walk

“Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing”, Philippians 3:15-16.

Matthew, in his Gospel, gives us a vivid account of a walk with the Lord, Matthew 14:22-34.

Jesus had finished ministering, and sent the disciples ahead across the Sea of Galilee, while He went up a mountain to have time with His Father.

A storm, a natural occurrence on the Sea of Galilee, caused by the natural geographical nature of the surrounding area, caused their hearts to fill with fear.

How would we match up with the disciples who, crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat were terrified, yet Jesus walked to them from the mountain?

We have just received lesson number one. Jesus is never far away when we need Him

Peter, the impetuous disciple dared the Lord to tell him to walk on the water. Jesus did not dare Peter, He commanded Peter with the word ‘COME’ .

Peter, in the boat, and as conversant as the other disciples with the fickleness of the Sea of Galilee, was now faced with obeying the Lord, or displaying his bravado as words, not action.

Peter did step out of the boat and walk across the top of the water. Peter’s feet were not getting wet. Peter was going along just fine. Peter switched his spiritual view to self view. He looked at what he was doing, not at what the Lord was enabling him to do.

Lesson number two is that the Lord will never ask you to do anything that He Himself was not able to do.

Jesus was walking towards the boat. Peter was walking away from the boat.

Peter then could see the One who could save him, but was walking away from what man believed to be his safe place.

Peter was like many Christians in today' s world, IN THE MIDDLE. He could not get back to man' s known safety area, the boat. He had more chance of sinking, and losing the battle completely. He could call out to the Lord, and did call out to the Lord, and got immediate assistance.

Even Peter' s voice changed at that point. Originally he had dared the Lord to call him. Peter' s voice now became calling upon the Lord for HELP.

Our third lesson is watching Peter make a three point turn. He went from bravado to desperation, and from desperation to sincerity.

Matthew quotes Jesus as saying, "...Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men", Matthew 4:19.

Jesus does not say, "...Follow me, and I will make you food for the fish".

Let me ask you the question, "How much would you pay to walk on water?" It cost Peter obedience, for he stepped out of the boat when Jesus said, "Come".

Many Christians to day are like the remaining disciples, they prefer to stay in the boat, and watch to see if the other person sinks.

Right here we have one major problem. Jesus calls people individually, NOT COLLECTIVELY!