

# groups.

— Notes | June 29, 2025

## Move from A story to MY story | Jesus Calms the Storm

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A parable is a story meant to teach a deeper truth. What happens when a made-up story becomes personal? In Matthew thirteen and fourteen, Jesus told the Parable of the Sower as He performed a miracle by feeding 5000. Immediately after, He dismissed the people and made His disciples get into a boat while He went off to pray. After receiving this powerful teaching, the disciples are invited to move beyond merely hearing the stories of Jesus to step into them. This is where it gets personal, and not just for Jesus' disciples. This story is personal for each of us, too. Life change happens when we move from **A story** to **My story**.

### Key Scripture | Matthew 14:22-33

"Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

### Related Scriptures

— Matthew 13:1-52, Matthew 14:13-21, Isaiah 41:10

### Icebreakers:

— Q: Share a book or movie that taught you a valuable lesson.

## Key Thoughts and Reflections: \_\_\_\_\_

### I. Move from A Story to My Story.

Q: Jesus doesn't wait around after feeding the 5000. Matthew tells us that He immediately dismissed the people and made His disciples get into a boat. How might this have confused the disciples after all they had seen and heard? What expectations might they have had after the sermon?

Q: What did the disciples face when the boat was a considerable distance from land?

Q: Share a time when you faced a "storm" after Jesus called you into His greater purpose. How did you respond?

### II. Move towards Jesus.

Q: When Jesus invited Peter to step out of the boat, what was He calling Peter to do mentally and spiritually? How did Peter respond?

Q: What did Matthew 14:31a say that Jesus did when things changed? Share a time when He did the same for you.

Q: What valuable lesson was relayed by Jesus' response?

### III. Move towards your One.

Q: For Peter, this was no longer **A story**, it was **His story**. Share one way God has called you to move from being a spectator into fully trusting and taking steps towards Him.

Q: Was there a time when you were waiting on God to move, only to realize that He had already moved and was waiting on you? What was your response?

Q: Reflecting on the lesson of the seeds sown among weeds from the Parable of the Sower, what are some things that can hinder us from moving towards Jesus and our One?

## Get Practical \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus moved out of Heaven and came to Earth to die for you. And now, He's waiting for you to trust and move with Him. This week, reflect on how God is calling you to move into His purpose. Journal anything that may be keeping you from getting out of the boat and moving toward Jesus. Lay these things down at the feet of Jesus and see Him reach out His hand and draw you near to Him. Isaiah 41:10 says: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you in my righteous right hand." Write this scripture down and carry it with you as a reminder of His presence and promise. If you need prayer, reach out to your small group leader or text prayer to 37748 so we can pray with you.