



North Church Message Notes

What's Your Boat?

Adam Bradshaw

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BIBLE: Matthew 14:22-33 (NIV)

Jesus Walks on the Water

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, 24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

29 "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Peter may have temporarily lost sight of Jesus, but Jesus never lost sight of him.

God will use even the clumsiest of water walking to inspire others to leave their boats and walk toward Him.

Failure isn't sinking while walking on water...It's believing that the boat you're in is going to save you.

“It is not the strength of your faith but the object of your faith that actually saves you. Strong faith in a weak branch is fatally inferior to a weak faith in a strong branch. It is not the strength of your faith but the object of your faith that actually saves you. Strong faith in a weak branch is fatally inferior to a weak faith in a strong branch.”

— Tim Keller, *The Reason for God*