

Mat 14:25-29 *And in the fourth watch of the night [3 A.M.] Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. (26) And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. (27) But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, **Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.** (28) And Peter answered him and said, **Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.** (29) And he said, **Come.** And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.*

This is not only an interesting story, there are critical lessons provided here for all who are truly disciples of Christ. When Peter saw Jesus walking on the water, he did **NOT** assume that he, Peter, could also automatically walk on water. But he **KNEW** he could if Jesus told him to, but until then Peter steadfastly stayed in the boat. He was not stupid; he knew that except for the directive power of God, no one can simply walk on water.

He also knew that if God directed him to **“Come,”** then even he, Peter, could do whatever he was commanded.

Jesus had a similar conviction. He said, [Joh 5:19] ***“Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.”*** He knew that before coming to earth He had emptied Himself of the powers of Deity and walked among us as a man who was totally dependent upon God for natural strength and life as well as supernatural strength and life. Because of this, He neither said nor did anything except what He saw and heard His Father saying and doing.

Likewise Peter could speak and act with power in obedience to the voice of his Master.

1. SEEKING and HEARING GOD is the first lesson of this discipleship class.
2. The second is to obey with confidence, knowing that God can and will do His part of the mission.
3. The third lesson is the importance of keeping focused on God and His command.
4. The final lesson is that Jesus is absolutely faithful to save all those who call out to Him.

In John chapter 14, verse 12, Jesus stated emphatically that believers would do even greater works than He had done. ***“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.”***

There are greater works to be done, but those, like the miracle works of Jesus must begin with the Father and His command.

This does not let us off the hook in doing those greater works. It places us in the position of calling upon God to speak to us and direct our steps. There is work to be done and God is seeking workers – listening and obedient servants.

Peter did not step out “in faith” in some foolish desire to show off or to prove that He could do whatever Jesus was doing. He carefully ‘put the horse in front of the cart’ in saying, “***Lord, if it is you, bid me come unto thee on the water.***”

He did not just sit around yawning doing nothing, nor did he randomly or impulsively jump into something. He pursued and received instruction and **then he obeyed.**

This is the basic and perhaps the most essential lesson of that class when “***Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.***”

God is always involved in our lives and He has things to say in every event of life, but very few are listening. Even at three o'clock in the morning out on the water, there are discipleship classes for the disciples who are willing to hear and obey.

Are you one of them?

Love and blessings,

George