

Next Steps: Spend some time reflecting back over your life, remembering a time when you were in a particularly stressful or fearful situation. What were the circumstances? How did you get into the situation? What were your feelings? Have you wondered where God was when you were going through that experience?

Take a few minutes to read through these parallel accounts of “Jesus walking on water” as recorded in Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-51 & John 6:15-21.

What do you think about Matthew & Mark saying, “Jesus made his disciples get into the boat?” How do you feel about God making you do stuff that results in more “stress & strain” in your life?

What was Jesus doing while the disciples were being “buffeted by the waves” and “straining at the oars”?

Was Jesus aware of the situation the disciples were in (Mark 6:48)? How quickly did Jesus respond to their situation?

Peter boldly challenged Jesus to call him out on the water. What was the result of his “step of faith?”

Have you ever taken a “God sized risk” that was completely outside of your understanding and experience?

What was the result of your “step of faith?” Did you experience complete success, partial success or utter failure? Was the risk worth the reward?

Was your faith strengthened? Did you have a greater appreciation for God’s goodness, strength and glory? Read Hebrews 12:1-3. What does it mean to “fix our eyes on Jesus?” It is no accident that these words follow directly on the heels of “The Great Hall of Faith” found in Hebrews 11. How are they connected?

Next Week: We are so excited to be together on November 18 to kick off a wonderful week of Thanksgiving. We will focus on those things for which we are thankful as we are inspired by joy filled worship. Following the service we will have special Thanksgiving-related treats (think all things pumpkin!)