

Introduction: **Last night Asian restaurant fortune cookie “We want the testimony without the test”**

A. What is implied by “getting on the other-side” (overcoming an obstacle

B. Is there anything that you would like to be on the other side of?

Explanation:

C. The objective is always getting to the other side of something

1. The other side of a trial, the other side of an argument, the other side of the day, the other side of a bill or a debt, the other side of a particular season.

D. But often our greatest struggle is “growing through the difficulty, instead, we just want to go through it.”

We think mostly in time and in straight lines – point A to point B – (holding our breath, come here pain teach me what I need to know) In order for “Christ to be formed in us” we must learn how to embrace the process and think more in circles

Read Mt. 14:22-34

Faith impartation leads us to deeper maturity.

22 Immediately He ¹made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.

23 After He had sent the crowds away, ^aHe went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone.

24 But the boat was already ^{1a} long distance from the land, ²battered by the waves; for the wind was ^{3a}contrary. – (in the boat- place of protection)

25 And in ^athe ¹fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. (3-6am)

26 When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is ^aa ghost!” And they cried out ¹in fear. –

27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “^aTake courage, it is I; ^bdo not be afraid.”

28 Peter said to Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.”

29 And He said, “Come!” And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

30 But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”

31 Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and ^asaid to him, “^aYou of little faith, why did you doubt?”

32 When they got into the boat, the wind stopped.

33 And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, “You are certainly ^aGod’s Son!”

34 When they had crossed over, they came to land at ^bGennesaret.

No file for the supernatural – Jesus is our model, we should expect. Inter dimensional, transrational.

II. What are the 4 Keys to getting to the other-side

A. Fix your eyes on the objective rather than the obstacles. (if you do not, indecision will eclipse your faith)

Vs 22 Immediately He ¹made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side.

1. What is the Objective- Jesus said to get to the “other-side” - Christ's objective is to bring us into a place of freedom, What is it that you desire to be on the other side of?

2. Obstacles are frightening when we take our eyes off the objective - If we stay focused on the dangers and difficulties, we will never take the risks necessary to achieve the objective.

(Illustration- dirt bike riding, whatever you look at is what you will run into, must look ahead at the trail and not the obstacles right in front of you)

3. A real decision followed by a real commitment is the framework for success."The

Fists" of Theodore Roosevelt – “Precept is a good thing, but to my thinking an ounce of practical energy is worth any amount of precept w/o action” – Committed to the objective

B. Get yourself into the boat and stay there. (Jesus always makes a way for escape)

Vs 24 But the boat was already ^{1a}a long distance from the land, ^{2b}battered by the waves; for the wind was ^{3a}contrary.

1 Co. 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, **but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.**

Acts 27:31 “Unless these men stay in the ship, you yourselves cant be saved”

1. Gods vehicle for redemption - The church / Constantly tossed around in darkness- God provides shelter Gen 8 Ark / Ex. 2:5 Moses was in a basket "ark" (Heb. TaVa)

C. Cultivate faith in what God said not fear in what you see (fear drives us toward relief and self-escape, weakening our courage)-REMBRANT

Vs. 24-25 But the boat was already ^{1a}a long distance from the land, ^{2b}battered by the waves; for the wind was ^{3a}contrary. And in ⁴the ¹fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea

1. Experience sailors- and dealing with the sea – would have taken shoreline-but went through the middle. – **“There isn’t anything to fear when I am here”**

2. Tendencies when things get rough:

- a. Self-sufficiency – “I can fix this myself”
- b. Self-defeat – “I’m never going to make it out “
- c. Spiritual distortion – looks and sounds good – no lasting change
- d. Christ dependency – living in reality and sharing vulnerability, maintaining testimony

D. Expect the Spirit to break-in to your reality!

Vs. 26 When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is ^aa ghost!” And they cried out ¹in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “^aTake courage, it is I;^bdo not be afraid.” Peter said to Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” And He said, “Come!” And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and ^csaid to him, “^aYou of little faith, why did you doubt?”

1. They did not expect the supernatural

Do you anticipate God breaking into your life- or has the "contrary wind" captivated your emotions and stolen your hope Grow a value for the transrational and the supernatural- Practice asking for the power of God to intervene

(suggestions for ministry)

1) Any area you want to be on the other side of today?

2) Are you willing to come and be real with God in order to move forward

3) Would you be willing to ask Him to raise your expectations