

Mission: Impossible

Matthew 14:25-33

“And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and come to Jesus.” - Matt. 14:28-29

Main Point: Our mission is possible by believing God will work thru us to do big things

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

When you are afraid you might fail at something, how do you tend to respond? Do you tend to dig your heels in and try harder? Or do you bow out?

In what area of your life do you most fear failure? Why?

We tend to approach the prospect of failure in one of two ways, either we work really hard in an attempt to ensure success or we choose not to try at all in order to avoid failure altogether. Both of these approaches neglect the most crucial component in overcoming fear: faith. Working hard to ensure success demonstrates a lack of faith because no matter how hard we try, we cannot ensure that we will avoid failure. We must acknowledge that our every success is ultimately due to the blessing of the Lord. Refusing to try at all demonstrates a lack of faith because it lets human weakness distract us from relying on God. In today's study, we will see that God is less concerned with our success than He is with our faithfulness

In the midst of the storm we learn a few things about our mission:

1. OUR MISSION IS SOMETIMES TOUGH. Have a volunteer read Matthew 14:22-24.

Jesus was the one who sent the disciples into the storm on the Sea of Galilee. When have you felt God's leading in life and it seemed he sent you into the eye of the storm? What have you learned about God through that circumstance?

Malachi 3:2-3 describes the Lord's holiness as a refiner's fire and cleansing lye. What do these processes have in common when helping metal or cloth reach a pure state? Read 1 Thess. 4:7-8. What is God's purpose in putting us "through the wash?"

2. OUR MISSION REQUIRES REASSURANCE. Read Matthew 14:25-27.

How did seeing Jesus walk on water reassure the disciples of their mission?

Where do you feel in your life you need to hear Jesus say, "Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid?"

When Jesus told them “It is I,” he was using language reminiscent of the Old Testament God who spoke to Moses through the burning bush. How might that have bolstered the disciples confidence and how might we apply that today in our lives?

3. OUR MISSIONS IS TO BE PERFORMED IN HIS POWER, NOT OURS. Read Matt. 14:28-29.

When have you tried to accomplish a large task in your own power? What happens when you ask others to get involved?

How can God’s involvement in your life help you “walk on water?” Read Luke 1:27 and Philipians 4:13. What hopes and dreams has He put in your heart that seem impossible?

4. OUR MISSION HAS A SAFETY NET. Read Matthew 14: 30-33.

When have you lost sight of God and started to sink? What brought you thru?

Is your first inclination when drowning in life to look to the one who is “truly the Son of God?” Why or why not?

APPLY IT:

What situations or circumstances are you currently facing in which you need to cry out, “Lord, save me” as Peter did?

Where do you need to rely on His ability in your life? How are you using your Spiritual gifts to do the impossible in your life and the life of your church?

Pray:

Pray specifically for the situations mentioned in the Application section of today’s study. Pray that God would remind your group this week of His unchanging character and that you would choose faith and trust rather than fear and anxiety.

Coming up @ VillageChurch:

Series: “At the Movies” starting July 16th-Aug 6th. Invite your friends and neighbors!
 Aug 6: Hacksaw Ridge

Discovery Class: August 27th after 10am worship. RVSP info@blythewoodvillage.com

VGroup Fair: August 20, 27 and Sept 10. Meet VGroup leaders and sign up for Fall semester

Balloons and Tunes: September 22nd at Doko Meadows Park 6-8pm. Sign up to volunteer!