Ordinary Made Extraordinary: "Walking on Water" 3.22.2020

Ice Breaker Question(s):

- What is your absolute dream job?

Digging Deeper:

- 1. Read Matthew 14:22-33
- 2. In verse 23 we see that Jesus went away into the hills. Even Jesus needed time away for rest and refocus. What did he do during this time? Right now, because of the current health crisis, many of us have been given the opportunity of more downtime than usual. It's possible this can be embraced as a season of rest, which is a gift. In what ways do we sometimes resist the gift of rest? How might this season be used purposefully, much as Jesus' used his time alone with the Father? What might God want from you right now with your time? How do we develop healthy patterns of time WITH God and time DOING ministry with the empowerment of God?
- 3. The disciples faced a storm that brought them to the end of human hope. Over the time since you have followed Jesus, what have been some of the most difficult storms you have faced? Did God bring you to the end of human hope in those storms? If so, how did you grow in Christ when you got to that point? What is a storm you're walking through right now and how are you responding?
- 4. When Jesus commands you, obey Him. Jesus told Peter to "come" to Him on the water. Even though it made no sense, Peter did what Jesus said. This is what obedience looks like--doing what Jesus says. Has God ever asked you to take a risky step of obedience into something scary or unknown? What steps of faith has Jesus asked you to take recently? Is there any area in your life where you are not obeying the Lord?
- 5. Fear will sink you. When Peter had faith, he walked on water. When he had fear, he sank in the water. The same is true for us. Fear will sink us. Where in your life is fear gripping and controlling you or your decision making?
- 6. Read Hebrews 12:2. How can you fix your eyes on Jesus right now? What would that look like?
- 7. You can choose to worry or worship. In an instant, the men went from worrying about their circumstances to worshipping their Christ. How is your worship of the Lord going? Are there ways you can worship through the storm of the COVID-19 epidemic we are walking through?
- 8. While we as a church cannot meet together, what are some ways that you can practically be the church? Take some steps today to BE the church! (If you have some good ideas, please feel free to share ideas with your journey group or the church staff.)

Prayer Time:

Take a few moments to pray for those who have no hope and no assurance, that in these days of uncertainty they would seek out the God of salvation. Ask God that Christians and the Church would clearly and powerfully share the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Pray that our response as a church and as Christ-followers will draw searching hearts to Jesus our Hope.

