



PERSONAL REFLECTION

READ Isaiah 41:8-10. Isaiah speaks of a strength that God desires to provide for His people when both great and small difficulties arise. How have you experienced that gift of strength, as you look back at hardships you have faced? What can you do to help yourself remember that moment of the gift of strength the next time you face something?

PRAYER ITEMS:

WEEKLY BIBLE READING PLAN

From the READ SCRIPTURE app, Available for both Android and Apple devices.

In the **READ SCRIPTURE** app, be sure to set your start date for January 1, 2026 in the app settings, and follow along with us!

October 11: Acts 11-12 | Psalm 124
October 12: Acts 13-14 | Psalm 125
October 13: Acts 15-16 | Psalm 126
October 14: Acts 17-18 | Psalm 127
October 15: Acts 19-20 | Psalm 128
October 16: Acts 21-22 | Psalm 129
October 17: Acts 23-24 | Psalm 130



WALKING with JESUS

Matthew 14:22-33 | **Jesus Walks on Storms**
Pastor Adam Van Dop | October 4, 2026

THE BIG IDEA:

The storms of life are very real, but how we respond to them reveals where our faith and trust really lie; Jesus calls us to place our hope not in the outcomes we desire, but only in Him.

Romans 7:18b

WHAT MATTHEW LEARNED THAT DAY, IS WHAT WE ARE LEARNING TODAY:

1. Storms _____ even when we are _____ Jesus.

Matthew 14:22-24, Genesis 1:2a, John 16:33

2. Storms _____ where we are placing our _____.

Matthew 14:25-30, Isaiah 43:1b-3a,

2. Jesus is _____ even when our _____.

Matthew 14:31-33



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LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. How do you feel about water, being in it, on it, or underneath it, love it or not?
2. Do you prefer moments that are a little unpredictable or planned?

QUICK REVIEW

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Pastor Adam said, "[Peter] had to decide that his trust in the Lord was greater than his own desire to feel safe and comfortable." Have you ever had to decide to trust the Lord, and leave something relatively safe? What was that like? How did you see the Lord's hand through it all?

READ SCRIPTURE

READ Matthew 14:22-33

1. How does this passage highlight God's presence in our world?
2. What does this passage say about our broken human condition?
3. How does this passage call me to make change in my life?

OCTOBER 11-17, 2026 | WEEK #3

DIGGING DEEPER

1. READ Matthew 14:22-26. Why do you think that Jesus sent the disciples ahead of Him, while knowing the storm would mean trouble for them?
- READ Genesis 1:1-3. Do you notice any parallels between the moments before creation and Jesus walking on the water? Does this help you understand why Jesus sent them into the storm?
2. READ Matthew 14:28-31. The storm doesn't define where Peter places his trust, but rather it reveals it. What do we learn about Peter's faith in this passage?
- Is there a particular trial or hardship that you have navigated, where the Lord clearly taught you something?
- READ James 1:2-8. What wisdom can we glean from James when we encounter some of the storms of our lives? What can God do through our trials?
3. READ Matthew 14:32-33. How has the disciples' reaction to Jesus grown from the beginning of the story to the end?
- READ Isaiah 43:1-3. What does this passage remind us about who we are to God, who God is to us, and what He promises when we go through difficult circumstances?

TAKING IT HOME

READ Psalm 18:16-20, Matthew 14:31, & 2 Timothy 2:13. How might Jesus' immediate action shape our response the next time we notice we're sinking? How might we today experience God's hand rescuing us? How might we be God's hand of rescue for each other?