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"Why do you doubt, O you of little faith?" Matthew 14:31

- 1) Read Matthew 14:22-36. Is there anything from the sermon or passage that you found confusing, surprising or encouraging?
- 2) How does Jesus reverse the problem of pain? How does he turn the question back on us, his disciples in verse 31?
- 3) Compare Peter's progress with the first time Jesus calmed a storm in 8:23 to this event. Why would Jesus repeat miracles for his disciples? Why do you and I need repeated experiences with God's deliverance and protection?
- 4) Why is God's providence comforting when you are in stormy waters up to your neck (Psalm 69:1)? What is Jesus trying to teach his disciples in this particular storm? What is he teaching you?
- 5) How do you argue with your unbelief when doubts arise? What helps you see that there is a plan behind the storm that you cannot see in the moment? How is Peter's success and failure comforting?
- 6) John Newton wrote the hymn, "Begone Unbelief". Read the lyrics below. You can use this website to sing it together: <https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/716>. The tune is familiar (O Worship the King). Take time to pray against unbelief together.

Begone, unbelief, My Savior is near,
And for my relief Will surely appear;
By prayer let me wrestle, And He will perform;
With Christ in the vessel, I smile at the storm.

Though dark be my way, Since He is my Guide,
'Tis mine to obey, 'Tis His to provide;
Though cisterns be broken, And creatures all fail,
The word He hath spoken Shall surely prevail.

His love, in time past, Forbids me to think
He'll leave me at last in trouble to sink:
Each sweet Ebenezer I have in review
Confirms His good pleasure to help me quite
through.

Why should I complain Of want or distress,
Temptation or pain? He told me no less;
The heirs of salvation, I know from His Word,
Through much tribulation Must follow their Lord.

How bitter that cup No heart can conceive,
Which He drank quite up, That sinners might live!
His way was much rougher And darker than mine;
Did Christ, my Lord, suffer, And shall I repine?

Since all that I meet Shall work for my good,
The bitter is sweet, The medicine, food;
Though painful at present, 'Twill cease before
long,
And then, oh, how pleasant The conqueror's song!