

FEAR ITSELF.

FEAR NOT – MATTHEW 14:22–32

Message Reflection Guide

We need to hear that God is still in control. We need to hear that it's not over until He says so. We need to hear that life's mishaps and tragedies are not a reason to bail out. They are simply a reason to sit tight.

Corrie ten Boom used to say, "When the train goes through a tunnel and the world gets dark, do you jump out? Of course not. You sit still and trust the engineer to get you through."

Next time you're disappointed, don't panic. Don't jump out. Don't give up. Just be patient and let God remind you He's still in control. You may be down to your last paycheck, solution, or thimble of faith. Each sunrise seems to bring fresh reasons for fear. But Jesus doesn't want you to live in a state of fear. Nor do you. – Max Lucado

CONVERSATION STARTER

What is something popular now that annoys you?

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

Read Matthew 14:22-32

Pastor Jason said: "When Jesus says "Fear Not" or "Do Not Be Afraid", He is encouraging us to focus on His greatness and power which can overcome all that we fear." In wh

When we are afraid, Jesus moves toward us. Why do you think Jesus waited until near dawn before He went out to help the disciples? Share a time that you feel you needed to wait on God to intervene. What did you learn from that experience?

When we are afraid, Jesus reassures our soul. How have you sensed God's presence and assurance during a storm in your life? Who did God use to encourage you? How has God used you to assure others who were struggling?

When we are afraid Jesus proves He is bigger than our storm. Sometimes the only limit to God is our imagination or our asking for help. How have you limited or put God in a box?

CHALLENGE

How has fear gripped you? What fears are preventing you from trusting God? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you identify those fears and ask for faith to believe that God is bigger than your fear(s).