

**The Miracle on The Lake  
(Series Part 3)**

**Date: September 18, 2022**

**Big Question: How do you manage a scary moment?**

**Answer: Step Out and Try**

**1. The Miracle on the Lake (John 6:16-24 cp Matthew 14:28-33)**

- 16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the **lake**, 17 where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now **it was dark**, and Jesus had not yet joined them. 18 **A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough.**
- 19 When they had rowed three or three and a half miles, **they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were terrified.**
- 20 But he said to them, **“It is I; don’t be afraid.”** 21 Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.

**Note: Matthew 14:25-33**

- 25 During the fourth watch<sup>1</sup> of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. **“It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.** 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”
- **28 “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”**
- 29 **“Come,”** he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”
- **32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”**

**2. Three Miraculous Lessons from the Miracle on the Lake**

- 1. Life can have some scary and hard to explain moments**
- 2. We can easily mislabel a miraculous moment as a “ghost” moment (v26)**
- 3. People like Peter, who step out of a secure boat, are in the minority (v28)**

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<sup>1</sup> S. Michael Wilcox, The Fourth Watch: How the Story of Christ Walking on the Water Applies Beautifully in Our Lives Source: <https://www.ldsliving.com/the-fourth-watch-how-the-story-of-christ-walking-on-the-water-applies-beautifully-in-our-lives/s/90245>



### **Closing Questions**

1. What unexpected scary challenge are you facing?
2. Name a moment when God showed up on your lake and surprised you?
3. Name a moment when you mislabeled a moment in your life (**It was not a ghost but a gift**)

**Next Time: Desperate Faith**

**Read Ahead: Matthew 21-28**

Appendix: The Four Watches

The first watch was from six in the evening until nine at night. The second watch was nine until midnight, the third watch from midnight until three in the morning, and the fourth watch from three in the morning until six, about sunrise.