



# Daily Reflections

**August 8, 2017**

**Matthew 14: 22-36**

Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side of the sea, while he dismissed the crowds.

After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray.

When it was evening he was there alone.

Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it.

During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them, walking on the sea.

When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified.

"It is a ghost," they said, and they cried out in fear.

At once Jesus spoke to them, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter said to him in reply,

"Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

He said, "Come."

Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.

But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

After they got into the boat, the wind died down.

Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying,

"Truly, you are the Son of God."

After making the crossing, they came to land at Gennesaret.

When the men of that place recognized him,

they sent word to all the surrounding country.  
People brought to him all those who were sick  
and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak,  
and as many as touched it were healed.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Poor Peter! He was doing just fine with his water walking until he made the almost fatal mistake of taking his eyes off of Jesus and focusing on himself. And so it is with us.....Fear, anxiety, doubts are certain to distract and unnerve us when we focus on ourselves rather than on Our Lord.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Shortly after the premiere of Peter Pan in 1904, author J.M. Barrie began hearing from parents whose children took Peter at his word: They believed they could fly, so they tried. Their failures led to a collection of minor and major injuries and the parents raised a fuss. So Barrie added a condition: All children could fly, but only if they had first been sprinkled with "fairy dust"!

Peter needed faith, not fairy dust, to keep him flying across the water.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Please keep me focused on You, especially when I find myself in times of trouble. May I always remember that You are there to rescue me. Amen.