



Daily Reflections

August 2, 2016

Scripture

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.

Our Scripture Reflection

Why did Peter begin to sink while walking on the water? His ego got in the way. He was more concerned with his own ability than with keeping his eyes locked on to Jesus. And so it is with us. When we find ourselves tossed around by the wind and waves in this life, we must keep our sights set on Jesus. He will see us through.

Food for your Journey

"We live in sheer dread of giving up control and abandoning ourselves to God," writes Larry Crabb in *Shattered Dreams*. "Only when we discover a desire for him that is stronger than our desire for relief from pain will we pay the price necessary to find him."

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, how difficult it is to maintain faith during the storms and struggles in life. They seem overwhelming. Please Lord, may I never make the mistake that Peter made. Help me, even during the most difficult of times, to surrender to Your care for me. Amen.