

AUGUST 10, 2014
9TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

taking+ faith home

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Jesus has the power to help
and to save.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned
Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 14:22-33	Jesus walks on water
Monday	Job 38:1-11	God halts the waves
Tuesday	Psalms 107:23-32	He stilled the storm
Wednesday	Matthew 8:23-27	Jesus stills the storm
Thursday	Genesis 7:11-8:5	Noah saved from the flood
Friday	2 Kings 6:1-6	An ax head floats
Saturday	Psalms 18:1-19	God saves from the waters
Sunday	Matthew 15:21-28	A woman's faith

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But Jesus quickly spoke to them, "Have courage! It is I. Do not be afraid." Matthew 14:27 (NCV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, please take hold of us when we are scared. Keep us from taking our eyes off you. Amen. (Matt. 14:29-31).

Mealtimes Prayer:

You who walked upon the sea, come and join our meal, we plea. Thank you for your care this day; lead us, Jesus, in your way. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus take hold of you when you are scared. May he give you faith to trust in him. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you found yourself out of your "comfort zone" or "sinking." How did you feel?
- Matthew 14:29-30 tells us that Peter stepped out of a boat to walk on water, but he soon became scared because of the wind and waves. What are some "winds" or "waves" in your life at the moment?
- How does Jesus help us when we are in trouble? In what ways has he calmed the "winds" or "waves" of your life?

DEVOTIONS

Peter was sinking, but Jesus reached out his hand and caught him (Matthew 14:31). In your home devotional times this week, share your fears or concerns with one another. After each person has shared, join hands with them and say these words: "Take courage. Jesus is with you. Do not be afraid." Give your worries to Jesus in prayer.

SERVICE

Romans 10:15 says, "The feet of those who bring the Good News are beautiful." Do you know of a fellow Christian who is serving as a missionary overseas or in another part of your country? Find out their address and put together an "encouragement package" to send to them. Let them know that you are praying for them, and commit to doing so during your household prayer times over the coming weeks.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus came to the disciples in the middle of the night and calmed their fears. Bedtimes are special opportunities for household members to talk, listen, share and pray with one another. This week, make an effort to engage with one another around bedtime. Pray that Jesus will come and remain with you during the night, and calm any "storms" that those in your household may be experiencing. Recite together the words: "I can lie down and sleep soundly because you, Lord, will keep me safe" (Psalm 4:8).



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