

# Adrenaline Rush



A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground that perfectly reflects the sky and the surrounding mountains. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the mountains in the background are covered in green vegetation. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and majestic.

**He who is not courageous enough  
to take risks will accomplish  
nothing in life.**

Muhammad Ali



**“Life is either  
a daring adventure  
or nothing at all!”  
-Helen Keller**

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# Taking Risks in Our Christian Walk

Are we willing to get out  
of the boat?

# God Loves Risk Takers

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- Throughout the Bible, God has called people to trust in Him and take risks with their faith.
- Noah built an arc.
- Moses led the people of God out of Egypt.
- David defeated Goliath.
- Mary and Joseph accepted God's plan for the birth of Christ.
- Countless disciples and missionaries who have spread the Word throughout history.
- Members of our church.

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● *“If you are afraid to take a step unless you know how things are going to work out, faith will always be a mystery to you.”* Ray

Pritchard

- Who or what do we trust in our lives? (Friends, job, money, family...)
- Do we put more trust in those people or things than we put in God?

# Let's Go Sailing

- *22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, 24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Matt 14:22-24*



# We see a ghost!

- *25 Shortly before dawn 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. Matt 14: 25-26*





# Why did they not recognize Jesus?

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- The apostles thought Jesus was a ghost as He walked across the water.
- They had been out on the lake for more than 8 hours battling the waves and trying to not capsize.
- They were wet, scared and exhausted.
- *In our times of distress, are we able to see God?*
- *Do we believe God is moving towards us to help us?*

# Peter Takes a Risk

- *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.*
- Matt 14: 27-29



# What do we think about Peter at this point?

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- Do we think he is showing off?
- Do we think he is crazy?
- Do we admire his courage?
- Peter stepped out of the boat and into the raging water because Jesus commanded him to do so. He took his first step to trusting Jesus.
- *Have we taken that step yet?*
- *Have we turned situations over to God, not knowing what will happen, but trusting God will help us through?*

# Peter's Fears Sink Him

- *<sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"*
- *<sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.*
- Matt 14: 30-31



# What do we now think about Peter?

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- Peter was weak in his faith.
- He did not trust Jesus even though He was right in front of him.
- Do we admire Peter for being the only one to get out of the boat?
- *Where would we have been that night: in the boat or beside Peter?*

# What sunk Peter?

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- *“You of little faith,” Jesus said, “why did you doubt?”* Matt 14:31
- Peter sank in the waves because he started to notice the turbulence around him. He was fine as long as he was looking at Jesus, but started to sink when he stopped focusing on Jesus and worried about the waves.
- *Can we relate to Peter’s situation?*
- *Have we ever let our worries/fears take our focus off of Christ?*
- *Do we start to sink at that point?*

# Jesus loved Peter's attempt.

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- ◉ Jesus loved the fact that Peter got out of the boat, but wished his faith was stronger.
- ◉ Jesus was probably more disappointed the other apostles didn't follow.
- ◉ Peter did not know how things would end that night, but he knew he had to try.

# Are we ever going to get out of the boat?

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- *When our time on Earth is nearing its end, is Jesus going to see us as one who left the boat or stayed safely on board?*
- Muhammed Ali and Hellen Keller stressed the fact that we really do not live without taking risks.
- *Are willing to be like Peter and take a risk with our faith? Are we willing to do something out of our comfort zone to help further God's kingdom?*
- Taking that risk may give us the most important adrenaline rush-the thrill of helping to lead someone to Jesus.