

## **Sermon Outline**

**Title:** Fix Your Eyes on Jesus

**Text:** Gospel of Matthew 14:22–33

**Theme:** Faith survives not by courage but by fixing our attention on Christ.

### **I. Jesus Leads His Disciples Into the Storm (14:22–24)**

A. The disciples enter the storm because Jesus sends them.

1. Matthew says Jesus “**made**” the disciples get into the boat
2. Their struggle comes from obedience, not disobedience.

B. The storm exposes human weakness.

1. Even experienced fishermen cannot control the wind and waves.
2. The disciples discover that following Jesus does not remove difficulty.

C. Storms often become classrooms for faith.

1. Throughout Scripture God reveals Himself in moments of crisis.
2. The disciples will learn something about Jesus here that they could not learn on the shore.

### **II. Jesus Reveals Himself in the Midst of the Storm (14:25–31)**

A. Jesus demonstrates authority over the sea.

1. In the Old Testament God alone walks upon the sea (Job 9:8).
2. Jesus approaches the boat walking on the water.

B. Faith begins by responding to Jesus’ word.

1. Jesus reassures the disciples: “Take heart; it is I; do not be afraid.”
2. Peter asks Jesus to command him to come onto the water.

C. Faith falters when attention shifts.

1. Peter begins walking toward Jesus in obedience.
2. Seeing the wind, he becomes afraid and begins to sink.
3. Jesus immediately reaches out and rescues him.

### **III. The Proper Response to Jesus Is Worship (14:32–33)**

A. Jesus’ presence calms the storm.

1. When Jesus enters the boat, the wind ceases.
2. The disciples witness His authority over creation.

B. The disciples recognize Jesus' identity.

1. They worship Him for the first time in Matthew's Gospel.
2. They confess: "Truly you are the Son of God."

C. Faith ultimately leads to worship.

1. The storm becomes the moment where Christ's identity is revealed.
2. The disciples move from fear to worship.

#### **IV. Application: Fixing Our Eyes on Christ**

A. Peter sinks when his attention shifts from Jesus to the wind.

1. The storm was present the whole time.
2. Fear begins when his focus moves away from Christ.

B. Modern life constantly pulls our attention away from Jesus.

1. Our devices and digital media compete for our focus.
2. Constant distraction weakens our ability to attend to God.

C. Spiritual disciplines help us recover our focus.

1. Fasting removes distractions that capture our attention.
2. The digital fast during Lent is a practical way to practice fixing our eyes on Christ.

#### **Conclusion**