



*The “team” (God, the Father; God, the Son; God, the Holy Spirit) reveals the power that is worked in the Kingdom of God.*

**John 6:15, “Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.”**

### **The people attempt to make Jesus their earthly king.**

- “Suddenly this unusual man named Jesus, who had miraculous power, caused the people and leaders who witnessed the feeding of the 5000 to think to themselves, ‘Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could get Him on our side and get Him to help us drive out the Romans?’” (Boice)
- Jesus perceived...means “he read their minds before they voiced it among themselves.” Jesus did not want any part of this plan to make him King.
- Jesus left the crowd expediently and went to pray.
- Jesus was more interested in his relationship and in conversation with His Father in heaven than in hearing and seeing the applause of the crowd.
- “He who is already King has come to open His kingdom to men; but in their blindness men try to force Him to be the kind of king they want; (Morris)

**John 6:16-18, “Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing.”**

- Matthew and Mark tell us that Jesus made His disciples get into the boat (Mark 6:45) and started to take off across the Sea of Galilee because Jesus told them to do it; perhaps Jesus saw that the disciples were being influenced by the crowd’s excitement. (The excitement for their leader might have caused them to think that now was the time for Jesus to be known by the world).
- **Even though it was already dark**, it did not cause angst with the disciples since several of the disciples were fishermen. Most of the disciples knew the Sea of Galilee well.

- **But...Jesus had not come to them immediately.** This was the *second* time Jesus dealt with His disciples on a storm in the Sea of Galilee. In the first storm (Matthew 8:24), Jesus was present with them in the boat and He rebuked and calmed the storm.
- In this storm Jesus asked His disciples to trust His *unseen* care and concern for them.
- The wind alone was bad enough, but the wind also whipped up the waters, making for troublesome seas.
- NOTE: “The Sea of Galilee is six hundred feet below sea level, in a cuplike depression among the hills. When the sun sets, the air cools; and as the cooler air from the west rushes down over the hillside, the resultant wind churns the lake.” (Tenney)
- Since the disciples were rowing toward Capernaum, they were heading into the wind; consequently, they made little progress.

**How many times have you heard someone say, “This man can walk on water.” OR, “Do you think I can walk on water or something?”**

**Jesus comes to His disciples, walking on the water.**

**John 6:19-21, “So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.”**

- In the first storm upon the Sea of Galilee the disciples were terrified (Matthew 8:25-26). In the beginning of the second storm, they were more frustrated than afraid.
- Jesus told them to row across the lake...and rowing hard for perhaps six to eight hours despite their hard work, they seemed to make little progress. (Matthew 14:25 says this happened *in the fourth watch of the night*, sometime between three and six in the morning).
- So, they had only come a little more than halfway across the lake (**three or four miles**).
- NOTE: They were in this place of frustration *at the will and command of Jesus*, doing exactly what He told them to do.
- Mark 6:48 says that Jesus watched the disciples as they rowed across the lake. (His eye was on them all the time).

A thought to take into consideration: Does the Lord put us in situations to grow our faith or to become more dependent on Him to bring us through hard times?

- **They saw Jesus walking on the sea... and they were afraid:** Mark 6:49-50 says the disciples were afraid because they thought Jesus, walking on the water, was a ghost or a spirit.

### ***It is I: Do not be afraid:***

- ✓ For Jesus, it was enough to announce His presence. He was with His disciples and would meet them in their frustration and fear.
- ✓ Jesus came to bring supernatural help and comfort to His disciples. His presence gave them what they needed, even though He came in an unexpected way.

NOTE: When we see Jesus as we cross the threshold into heaven...I think Jesus will be waiting there and He will say, "Gerald, my brother, IT IS I...DON'T BE AFRAID!"

### ***Now the disciples knew who it was...therefore, they willingly (not strong enough word), They "enthusiastically" received Him into the boat:***

- ✓ The implication was that Jesus would not come *unless* and until He was welcomed in the boat by His disciples.
- ✓ They knew Jesus could even calm the sea and winds. Now He is in the boat with them. They could now relax and enjoy the boat trip.

#### **NOTE:**

- When they *had willingly received Him into the boat*, the miraculous happened.
- The "immediate" move to the destination on the other side of the lake was a startling MIRACLE. From all indication "the immediate" move did not require the work of the disciples. Jesus moved the boat in a "heavenly" and "miraculous" timeframe.
- The work that was so frustrating a few moments before suddenly was divinely accomplished. (Two miles had been traveled in a "blink of an eye").

This was one of those miracles that had an "eternal" meaning. It gives us a glimpse of how God and the angels move about in the heavenly realm as well as here on earth.

This was a teaching moment for the disciples and us today.

Remember, Jesus shows up in the upper room where the disciples and others were as they were giving information to Thomas about Jesus' resurrection.

What does it say, "***A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." John 20:26***

### ***We have seen today:***

- ***Jesus had the power to know what the recipients of His miracle were thinking.***

“There is no force known by man which can know what people are thinking, know how the people will react, and know the outcome of a situation before it is an actual fact.”

- ***The Father (God, the Father) has turned over all authority to Jesus.*** Therefore, Jesus possesses the natural and the supernatural powers to complete the work of salvation, the resurrection of the true believers, and the eternal life promised for all who yield to the Spirit’s conviction and who repent of the sin that holds them in Satan’s grip. **“Free at last...Free at last!” (Martin Luther King).**

### ***When does Jesus turn over all authority back to His Father?***

***1 Corinthians 15:24-27, 24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27 For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ.”***