



“SPENDING TIME ALONE WITH GOD”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

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Monthly Newsletter

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MATT. 14-22-32

The Bible shows us that after Jesus sent the crowd away after performing a great miracle, He also sends His disciples on a boat to cross over to the other side. Jesus climbs up a mountain to spend time alone with God. “After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray.” V. 23a The life that Jesus lived among his disciples was to show them how to live the Christian life once He was gone back to heaven. Jesus wanted to reveal to His 12 future commandos the importance of prayer and also, the lessons of what prayer brings to the believer. Jesus was a role model or a reference point to show them by His example on how a true Christian should walk before God. Jesus wanted His disciples to be followers of Him as He was of God. Paul said it this way, **“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.”** 1Cor. 11:1 Jesus was a prayer warrior! Paul was a prayer warrior! Moses was a prayer warrior! Peter, John, Enoch, king David and many more men and women recorded in the Bible were prayer warriors. Jesus gives us an example for every Christian to follow. The four Gospels and all the New Testament

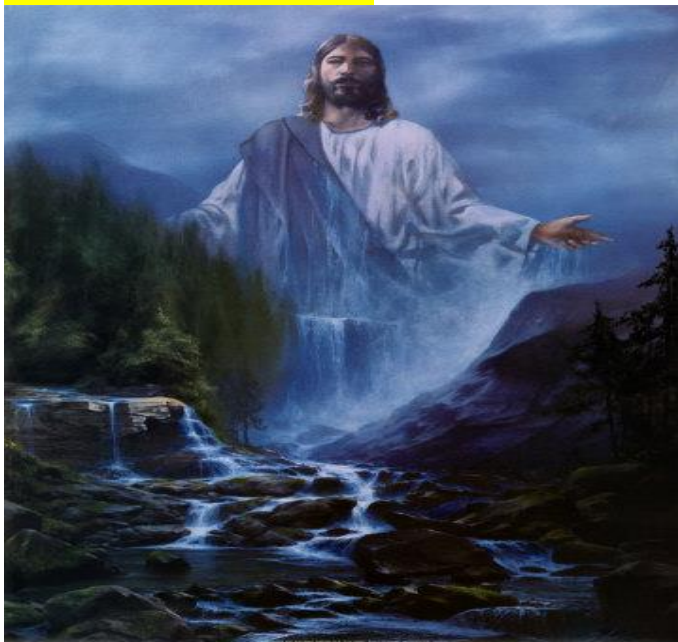
reveals to us how to live the Christian life in victory in spite of our failures and short comings in our journey with God in the ‘Narrow way’ Now let’s see what happens when a Christian surrenders his whole heart to pray in his prayer closet, alone with God?

YOU WILL ENCOUNTER HEAVY SPIRITUAL WARFARE

“Later that night, He was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.” V. 23b As the disciples obeyed Jesus to get into the boat and to cross over to the other side they were met head on with a severed storm. The devil wanted to destroyed whatever plans Jesus had for his New recruits. Satan some how knew that Jesus was up to something in the training of these 12 men who were going to be weapons of war against his kingdom of darkness. Jesus wanted to develop faith in the hearts of the disciples so that they would trust God no matter what they would go through. He was teaching them on spiritual warfare. The war between God and satan for the souls of the lost was a real. The Bible says, **“He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them...”**

Mark 6:45a. God sees us also in our daily battles with satan, **‘straining at the oars’**, but he allows us to engage in spiritual warfare because He is training us to do battle. God tested Job when he allows satan to attack severely. Job 1:2, Job 2: 6 Job prayed and trusted God no matter what. (Job 1:5) When you are being attacked by the devil, God wants to see what you are going to do. Are you going to run? Quit? Or are you going to trust God and fight. The fighting is done in your prayer closet praying to Almighty God. There God will give you all you need to be victorious. Jesus was testing His disciples in the importance of prayer and spiritual warfare. He went to the mountain top to pray to God and they were **‘straining at the oars,** because the wind was against them...” v. 45 What happens when a Christian surrenders his whole heart to pray in his prayer closet, alone with God.

JESUS WILL REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU IN A NEW WAY



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“Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. **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 The disciples had seen Jesus consistently praying by himself on the mountain, they had seen and experience the miracles, lepers being healed, dead being raised to life; the eyes of the blind being opened and multitudes being fed with only a few fishes and loaves of bread. They were probably thinking they had already seen it all in what Jesus was able to do. They did not quite understand the mysteries and power that God wanted for them to experience so that one day they could also demonstrate that power and anointing in taking the Gospel to all the world. God has no limit in what He can do! He is able to do extra supernatural miracles and wonders if we can believe and trust Him and His word. Jesus wanted to take His disciples into another level in their spiritual walk with Him. But when Jesus revealed Himself to them in a different way, (walking on water), they were afraid and terrified because they could not believe they could also walk in that manner. **In the supernatural!** God says that there is nothing too difficult or impossible for Him. “Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.” Jer. 32:17 Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” Lk. 18:27

The time came for the disciples to be tested again because Jesus wanted to take them to the next level. Jesus wanted to enlarge their hearts so that He could fill their cups with

more oil. They were going to see Jesus in a different realm which they did not understand. “And seeing them distressed in rowing, for the wind was contrary unto them, **about the fourth watch of the night He cometh unto them, walking on the sea;** and he would have passed by them.” Mk. 6:48 Jesus is coming to the disciples in the heat of battle with satan. Not to rebuke the devil but to take them into another level in their walk with Him. Jesus walk in the midst of the fire with the three Hebrews as He was taking them into another level in their walk with God. Daniel 3:24-25 says, “Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. He answered and said, **Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire,** and they have no hurt; and **the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.** The disciples were afraid of when they saw Jesus walking on water and cry out, “**It’s a ghost**”. They did not recognize Him. Why did they cry out “it was ghost?” I think because they were in new territory with God. **They said, that’s not Jesus.** It’s the devil! It’s a ghost! Mark 6:49-50 says, “but when they saw him walking on the lake, **they thought he was a ghost.** They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified.” Many Christians do the same whenever God wants to take them to another level. They say, it’s a ghost! This cannot be God. **They put limits on God.** But Jesus immediately tells His trainees not to be afraid. “**Immediately** he spoke to them and said, “**Take courage! It is I.** Don’t be afraid.” Mark 6:50, “...**Immediately** he

spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. **Don’t be afraid.**” When God wants to take you deeper with Him, don’t be afraid. Trust Him and do not lean on your understanding. (Proverbs 3:5) “**Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;**’ What happens when a Christians surrenders his whole heart to pray in his prayer closet, alone with God?

YOU WILL WALK WITH HOLY GHOST POWER



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“**Lord, if it’s you,**” Peter replied, “**tell me to come to you on the water.**” When Peter saw that it was not a Ghost, he asked Jesus to command him to walk in water. Peter wanted to go to the next level with God. He wanted more of the power and anointing of God. Peter somehow understood that Jesus could command him to walk on water. He said, “Lord, if it is You, **command me** to come to You on the water.” V. 28 NASB Peter was hungry for more of Jesus in spite of all his flaws. Jesus answers his prayer and Peter by faith walks on water. He is experiencing the next level in the supernatural just like the three Hebrews, Elijah, Elisha, Moses, Joshua and many others as recorded in the Bible. God also wants us today to go to the next level which

is operating in the power of the supernatural. The disciples experience this in the book of Acts after the day of Pentecost when they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. ‘Truly, truly I say to you, the one who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I am going to the Father.’ John 14:12
 Jesus said in Matthew 14:29-30, “Come,”
 ... Then Peter got down out of the boat, **walked on the water and came toward Jesus**. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me! Peter is walking on water! He went to the next level! He is experiencing the supernatural. God wants the same for every Christian because we are living in the ‘Last Days’.

CONCLUSION:

The Bible reveals to us hope and encouragement even if we have failure or make our share of mistakes when walking on water like Peter and Jesus (power of the supernatural). “Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, **beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”** Matt. 14:29-30
JESUS IMMEDIATELY RECUES HIM!
“Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.”
 V. 31,32 Jesus will never give up on us in spite of our failures and mistakes we make in our journey with Him. Jesus will never leave us or forsake us! We are the ones who leave Him and break His heart! God loves us so much. If you are sinking in your journey with God in your wilderness, in the valley,

in the distant country, or even as you walk on water, cry unto Jesus and He will immediately pull you up. “**beginning to sink**, cried out, “Lord, save me!”
 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.” Matt. 14:30-31
 Then Jesus said, “**You of little faith,**” he said, “**why did you doubt?**” Why did Peter sink? Unbelief! Lack of faith was his sin in Peter’s heart that Jesus wanted to expose to him. What sin is sinking you or keeping you from walking on water? A lusting heart? Pride? Gossiping mouth? Fornication? Adultery? Bitterness? Unforgiveness? No prayer life? REPENT and walk on water by faith. Walking on water is a complete surrender and dependence to God. You trust and believe God with all your heart What happens when a Christians surrenders his whole heart to pray in his prayer closet, alone with God?
YOU WILL ENCOUNTER HEAVY SPIRITUAL WARFARE!
JESUS WILL REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU IN A NEW WAY
YOU WILL WALK WITH HOLY GHOST POWER
 Get out of the boat and walk on water and don’t be like the eleven that were content to stay on the ‘Boat Level’

