Loving Those Who Fear

Learning to Love Like Jesus

John 6:16-24
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Matt 14:22ff
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Fear Is Common To Us All. 
God Allows It...Sometimes He Plans It!

- **Disciples are afraid** 
  *Circumstances; Unknown*
- **Peter is Afraid** 
  *Threatened by his choice*

*Fear blinds us...but keeping our eyes on Jesus opens us to the possibility of His work for us.*
Jesus Prays For Us When We Are Going Through Tough Times.

• “After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.” Mk 6:46

“Christ Jesus, who died-- more than that, who was raised to life-- is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.”

Rom 8:34
Jesus Sees Us, Even In Our Worst Situation.

• Mk 6:48 “He saw them distressed in rowing!”

“When God’s children go through the fire he keeps His eye on the flames and his hand thermostat!"  Warren Wiersbe
Jesus Comes To Us In The Storm.

All three Gospels record the detail of Jesus coming to the disciples in the storm. We get captured by the side issues...The point is Jesus met them in their need!

“*The LORD is near to all who call on him*”

Ps 145:18
Jesus Holds Onto Us In The Storm.

Mt 14:31
Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and took hold of him. (Peter)

“Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you”
Heb 13:15
Jesus Walks With Us Through The Storm.

Mt 14:32
“And when they had gone up into the boat...”

“What must it have been like to walk back to the boat holding Jesus hand?
Jesus Speaks To Us And Calms Our Fears.

1. He spoke to the disciples... “Don’t worry, it’s me!”
2. He spoke to Peter, “Oh you of little faith!”

“And when they climbed into the boat the wind died down.”
Mt 14:32
Jesus Takes Us Through The Storm Safely To The Other Side.

“...immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading!”       John 6:21

“You’ll get through this. It won’t be painless. It won’t be quick. But God will use this mess for good. Don’t be foolish or naïve. But don’t despair either. With God’s help, you’ll get through this.”

Max Lucado
Today’s Response

1. Get out of the boat...for yourself...or for others!
2. Meet Jesus where HE is...out in the middle of the storm!
3. Don’t let the opportunity to find help pass you by because you are afraid.