



Hi Friends,

On August 9 our guest speaker will be George Lutzer, the General Director of Canadian Church of God Ministries.

I will be away so here are the questions one week ahead of time for your pondering:)

Here is the link and the discussion prompts below:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz-TqJbYuJnkyxqy-e3fzjg/featured>

Facing Life With Faith - Discussion Questions

Talk about a time when you felt your faith was being challenged. In what way were you being

asked to leave the safety of your “boat” during that time?

As you look back over the last few months since the impact of Covid-19 on our society, would you say your journey has been marked by fear or faith? How so?

Read: Matthew 14:22-33

- 1. What is the significance of Jesus “making the disciples get into the boat” in light of the storm they would encounter (v.22)? What does this tell us about the journey of devoted follower of Christ?**
- 2. What might the reason have been Jesus dismissed the crowd alone (see John 6:15)?**
- 3. Why does Matthew feel it’s important to mention that Jesus “went up on a mountainside by himself to pray” (v.23)? What might this reveal about Jesus’ relationship with God, the Father? What lesson can we draw from Jesus’ example here?**

4. What do you suppose was the conversation in the boat amongst the disciples as they were “a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves” (v.24)? What is your conversation with trusted individuals and with God like when you feel caught up in one of life’s storms?

5. What’s interesting about the disciples’ reaction to Jesus walking on the water (v.25-26)? Though they travelled and lived with Jesus virtually every day, why didn’t they recognize Him?

6. When have there been times in your life Jesus might have been close by and you didn’t recognize Him?

7. What’s significant about the words Jesus spoke to the disciples in v.27? When Jesus says “It is I,” He’s using the same phrase God used when speaking to Moses at the burning bush...why is this so impactful here?

8. What was compelling Peter to get out of the boat to walk on the water to Jesus (v.28)? What aspect of faith being ready to risk speaks to you here (v.29)?

9. What “boat” do you feel you’re being called to step out of to grow in your faith journey?

10. One aspect of faith means facing your fear (v.30). What fears may Jesus be inviting you to face?

11. What comfort do you take from v.31? How does this verse encourage you to step out in faith as well as to depend on Jesus?

12. In what way does taking a step of faith honour Jesus (v.32-33)? What has God been saying to you in this lesson? What are you going to do about it?

Peace,
Dave Van Roon
Transitional Lead Pastor
Camrose Church of God

Church of God at Camrose • 780 672 3461 • ccog@camrosechurchofgod.ca • 4722 55
Street Camrose, Alberta T4V 2B6
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