

# Welcome to Digging Deeper

We've launched this weekly blog series designed to help you engage more deeply with Sunday's message. Whether you're new to church or have been following Jesus for decades, these discussion questions are meant to help you reflect, apply, and talk through the truths we explore together each week. You can use them on your own, with your family, or in a group setting.

Let's dig into this week's message:

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## Why Did You Doubt?

[Matthew 14:22–33](#)

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### Introduction

In Matthew 14, the disciples find themselves battling a storm in the middle of the night. What's surprising is how they got there. Jesus sent them into it. As the waves crashed against the boat, Jesus approached them walking on the water. Peter stepped out in faith but soon became overwhelmed by fear and doubt.

This week's message reminds us that faith isn't about proving ourselves with dramatic moments. It's about trusting Jesus in the middle of the storm. Even when the wind is strong and our focus wavers, Jesus is not distant. He sees, He intercedes, and He reaches out.

### Reflecting on the Passage

- In [Matthew 14:22–24](#), what does it mean that Jesus compelled the disciples to enter the boat and face the storm?
- How does Jesus' presence in verses 25–27 change the disciples' perspective on the storm?
- What caused Peter to begin sinking in verses 28–31? How does the idea of doubt as "divided focus" help explain his struggle?
- In verses 32–33, what happened when Jesus entered the boat? How did the disciples respond?

## Personal Application

- Can you recall a time when you felt like God had sent you into a difficult situation? How did that shape your faith?
- When storms come, what tends to capture your attention, the wind and waves or the presence of Jesus?
- Have you ever felt pressure to “prove” your faith instead of simply trusting God?
- What might it look like for you this week to stay focused on Jesus rather than the circumstances around you?

## Exploring Faith

- The message reminded us that “You don’t need to prove your faith by walking on water. You need to trust the One who walks on it.” How does that reshape your understanding of faith?
- [Hebrews 7:25](#) says Jesus lives to intercede for us. How does knowing Christ is praying for you change the way you face hardship?
- William Gurnall wrote, “The saint’s trial is God’s opportunity.” What opportunities might God be creating in your current challenges?

## Community Impact

- How might God be calling you to encourage someone who feels overwhelmed by life’s storms?
- How can we help one another keep our focus on Christ rather than on fear or uncertainty?
- In what ways can we model calm faith when others around us feel overwhelmed?

## Closing Thoughts

Storms are part of the journey of faith. Sometimes they come because of our mistakes, but sometimes they come because Jesus led us there. The good news is that He never abandons us in the storm. While the disciples struggled against the wind, Jesus was watching, praying, and moving toward them. And when He entered the boat, the storm stopped.

Our calling is not to master the waves. It’s to trust the Master of the waves.

Grace and peace,

The Belle Isle Community Church Team