



## KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS!

This week our Gospel tells the story of the day Jesus walked on the water and he saved Peter from drowning in the water

Listen to our Gospel today

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0RYWZZw9Nc>

THIS IS THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

And we say : PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Isn't this an amazing story for us today. Imagine if you were in a boat, in a storm, and you saw someone coming towards the boat you were in – and that someone was walking on the water! Oh my goodness ... we would be like Jesus' friends, I think, and wonder what is it? Is it really a person walking on the water? How can that be?

We have learned a lot of things about Jesus. He healed sick people, he brought dead people back to life, he made blind people see and deaf people hear, and he fed thousands of people with just 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. We shouldn't be too surprised to hear then, that Jesus walked on the water!

But the question is : why did he walk on the water? What's this Gospel reading all about?

I think there are more than one lesson for us to learn. But I think the biggest one is to keep our eyes on Jesus. Remember in the Gospel movie when Peter was walking on the water and then he took his eyes off Jesus, because the storm was raging all around him, and he started to sink. He called out and asked Jesus to save him. Jesus didn't say : well, actually Peter, at the moment I'm busy concentrating on walking on the water but I will help you in a minute. No! Jesus helped Peter straight away! Jesus reached out and he saved Peter as soon as Peter asked him to. And that's what Jesus will do for us. As soon as we ask for help Jesus is ready to help us!

And another lesson today is – when Jesus got in the boat with the disciples and they all knew who he was and they were looking at him and they said they knew who he was – the storm stopped straight away.

So, let's think about it. We're probably not going to hop out of a boat and try and walk on water – but there are sometimes when we feel there is so much to be done, or we're frightened, and there's nobody to help us, and we wonder how are we going to manage, and we get very stressed out and maybe a little bit angry and we snap at people. These times are like "storms" in our lives. But today the Gospel reminds us – to keep our eyes on Jesus – ask Jesus to help us (just like Peter did) – and when we do this all our troubles will become less like a storm and life will seem more calm. We will be able to manage because Jesus will save us! This is what 'having faith' means. We believe that Jesus will help us - just like he helped Peter in the Gospel story when he cried out to Jesus to save him from drowning.

So it's important that we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. Join Jana Alayra and sing this song that reminds to do this.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POKPmF4Bm2k>

This song reminds us that we have to practice keeping our eyes on Jesus all the time and not just call out to him when we feel like we are lost in a storm. If we keep our eyes on Jesus we won't even get stuck in a time when things are too hard for us to manage! If we do get worried or frightened we have to quickly remind ourselves to call out to Jesus because it seems we are trying to cope with things by ourselves.

What a great thought this is : Jesus is in charge and he will make our lives calm!

Thinking about our Gospel – can you think about and answer these questions



How did the disciples feel when they first saw Jesus?



Can we get into troubles that God can't help us out of?



What was the weather like when Jesus appeared?

Who asked to walk on the water with Jesus?

What made Peter afraid?



Did Peter walk on the water by his own power?

Who should we keep our eyes fixed on?

Let us pray ... in song!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VDpHibftHs>

I'M TRUSTING YOU GOD! YOU ARE GOOD!

*Jesus, when I feel like my life is a bit of a storm help me to remember that it is you that I am fixing my eyes on, and your love and your power and your strength will save me - just like you saved Peter in the bible. Help me to trust in you - to have faith in you. I know that you love me! And when I fix my eyes on you nothing can frighten or worry me. Thank you Jesus for blessing me with such great love. Amen.*

I ask my friend Jesus to bless each and every one of you, in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen