

REVIEW

Jason opens this session by re-telling the story of Peter walking on water. He reassures us that God has called us to live lives of water-walking faith. **Do you remember how old you were when you first heard or read Peter’s water-walking story? What did it make you think of Peter? What did it make you think of Jesus?**

Jason reckons the reason this story resonates with us so deeply is that God took an ordinary man living an ordinary life in an ordinary place and He did something extraordinary in him and through him. **Do you long to live a life of purpose? What does that mean to you? What might a purposeful life look like in your current season or circumstances? In contrast, what might an average or mundane life look like? Who stands out to you as someone who lives for a cause bigger than themselves – a cause that will outlive them?**

Matthew 14:22–32 gives us the account of Peter stepping out of the boat and heading toward Jesus. **Was it Jesus’ idea or Peter’s idea for Peter to walk on water? Does this surprise you? Why, or why not? What do we learn from Peter’s attitude and his subsequent actions about being ‘water-walkers’?**

Jason says, ‘Water-walkers pioneer. They initiate. They start things. They’re asking... they’re kicking things off. Water-walkers pioneer.’ **Discuss the idea that sometimes we need to wait on God, and sometimes God is waiting on us to dream, pray, and initiate. Where or how do you think God may be waiting on you to believe, serve, give, or start something in your circles of influence and concern right now?**

James 4:2 says, ‘You have not because you ask not.’ Jason believes that some of our greatest breakthroughs are left unfulfilled in our minds because they never leave our mouths. We never *ask*. **Can you share about a time when asking God for a breakthrough set change in motion in your life? How would you encourage someone to begin praying about a dream or desire? How might you encourage someone who *has* been asking God for a breakthrough but the breakthrough hasn’t come?**

Jason reminds us that we should step out in faith by asking God for the significant life to which He has called

Horizontal lines for writing.

BIBLE EXPLORATION

In Matthew 7:7, Jesus says, 'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you' (NIV). Another version reads, 'Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you' (NLT). **Is there an area of your life where you need to *keep on* asking, seeking, and knocking? Do you need to persevere practically or in prayer?**

John writes, 'Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth' (1 John 3:18). **What have you been talking or dreaming about for a long time? What action do you need to take to translate the dream into reality?**

The same Peter who walked on water later wrote, 'So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world' (1 Peter 1:13). **Discuss the idea that, although Peter had matured in his faith by the time he wrote his letters, he still possessed the same passion for pursuing Jesus that he did when he walked on water. Does he remind you of anyone you know?**

In another letter, Peter wrote, '...make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ' (2 Peter 1:5-8). **Discuss how Peter's words here are something of a manifesto for pioneering, water-walking faith.**

LAST WORD

Perhaps to begin living a life of water-walking faith your first step needs to be just that: a *step*. Perhaps you've been waiting for God when all the time God has been waiting for you to take a step out of the boat by dreaming, asking, and initiating. Remember too that water-walkers pioneer but they don't do so alone. God's presence goes with you as you pioneer, and His presence is an invitation into the impossible and the miraculous because the same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you. Perhaps it's time to go where you've never gone before and do what you've never done before. It's time to believe for a breakthrough because Jesus Himself says, 'I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in Me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father' (John 14:12).

DEEPER WALK

Select at least one activity below to complete before watching the next session.

Read: This week, read through the book of James. He talks a lot about actively, front-footedly living out our faith. Is God prompting you not just to pray but to pioneer?

Write: Perhaps you haven't ever been honest with yourself about the dreams stirring in your heart. Spend some time writing them down. Be specific. If a first step – or a next step – comes to mind, write that down too. It's never too late or too soon to begin to pioneer.

Pray: Who in your community strikes you as particularly courageous and humble? Dare to ask them to pray with you and for you, that God would engender in you a brave and pioneering spirit as He stretches your water-walking faith.