

Covenant Life

- Our next Gathering is **TODAY** at 3pm. Please put this on your calendar and bring a friend.
- We have restarted Childrens Ministry, led by Cecilia Briseno with the help of Gracie Wagner and Eliana Medina, for all children ages of 5-10. They meet during the prayer meeting following praise & worship until the closing prayer (approximately 3:30-4:20pm). *Please help pass the word to young families!*
- 50th Anniversary content is available here; past prayer meeting audio is here, Word Gift summaries are here, and transcripts are here.
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online here or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

One, often effective, way to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us is to read a bible passage and place ourselves into the scene. Ponder the actions, reactions, what was said, what was not said, consider what we might have done or said in that situation. Invite the Holy Spirit in and ask Him to teach us through this time.

The Gospel today provides a fascinating story to contemplate. Choosing to take the place of Peter, the scene is set. Crazy storm, middle of the night, cannot see clearly, everyone is frantic, and we see a figure literally walking on the water. For my part I think the last thing I would have done was to suggest getting out of the boat!

Here is where the Holy Spirit can speak. Reflecting on my own 'storms', how did I respond, in hindsight how should I have responded? Do I have the courage and conviction to dialogue with the Lord about my situation? Am I willing to put myself out there and boldly do the 'impossible'? If the prompting is confirmed, do I have the resolve and fortitude to take that bold step?

I really must applaud Peter. Who in the world would respond to the sight of someone walking on the water with the desire to join them? Such conviction and faith... Lord, give me that confidence and faith in You! I want to join You in whatever You are about. Never let my belief in the 'possible' slow my willingness to join You!

As the story continues, we see what often happens when we set out to follow our Lord, namely, we take our eyes off Him and lose our way. This can happen in many ways. We start to get our own 'good' ideas, our own needs and desires creep in, other agendas come to light...whatever it is, the moment we take our eyes off the Lord and our constant deference to His holy and perfect will, we start to falter. Then, it is only a matter of time, before we are sinking in the hole we have started digging ourselves into.

Fortunately for Peter, and us, Jesus will never leave us! As soon as we recognize that we have taken over control we can call out and plead for His mercy. He will never abandon us. Maybe this is the key point. No matter where we have been, what we have done or not done, said or not said, it is never too late to call to our Lord for help. Today is a new day. Today is the best day ever because today we can try again to totally surrender to our Lord. Today we can call out to Him and take a step in faith. Today we can try again to fix our eyes on Him and resolve to be with Him wherever He is and whatever He is doing.

Let us pray, "Jesus, today, I again declare You as my personal Lord and Savior. I want to be about Your work. I want to be where You are and cooperating with Your Holy and Perfect Will. Help me to be comfortable with what seems humanly impossible. Give me the courage to say yes to whatever You ask of me. Give me the strength to keep my gaze upon You and never be distracted. I love You and have come to do Your will!"

God Bless,
David