



## Risking Comfort & Security

Matthew 14:22-33

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Brian Lightsey

**The Suburbs: No Scarcity + No Suffering = Safety**

**Reigning values in suburbia are comfort and security.**

The result is a “practical atheism” where we do not need to depend on God.

What am I doing with God’s help that I could never do on my own?

Matthew 14:22-29, “22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, 24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. 25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. ‘It’s a ghost,’ they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: ‘Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.’ 28 ‘Lord, if it’s you,’ Peter replied, ‘tell me to come to you on the water.’ 29 ‘Come,’ he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.” (NIV)

**What’s your boat?** (comfort & security zone)

**Spiritual Practice: Sacrifice: I renounce comfort and security as the ultimate values of my life and take the risk and offer myself fully to God.**

Romans 12:1-2, “1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (NIV)

Matthew 14:25-33, “25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. ‘It’s a ghost,’ they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: ‘Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.’ 28 ‘Lord, if it’s you,’ Peter replied, ‘tell me to come to you on the water.’ 29 ‘Come,’ he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’ 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. ‘You of little faith,’ he said, ‘why did you doubt?’ 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.” (NIV)

**Applications:**

**If you want to walk on water, first you have to be willing to get your feet wet. You have to get out of the boat.**

**There is never an ideal time to get out of the boat.**

**We do not have to be afraid because Jesus is with us.**

**When we focus on the storm instead of the Savior, we will often fail.**

**Failing is not only not succeeding; it is also refusing to risk.**

**Those who risk big experience the deliverance of God.**

**When people get out of the boat, remarkable things happen.**

What am I doing with God’s help that I could never do on my own?

**Jesus is still looking for people to get out of the boat.**

**Will I?**