



Open with Sermon Bumper: "I am Free"

### **Section 1 (1 Minute)**

- Some of you wanted to jump up and dance
- But by the time you built up the courage to do it the song was over
- Remember, You must seize the opportunity of a lifetime in the lifetime of that opportunity **(On screen)**
- We used to build constructs to keep people from sinning, Like Do not dance, no movies
- But today people build their own constructs to keep them from getting hurt again
- Your construct is keeping you in a prison that makes it impossible for you to accomplish the dream in your heart
- **Watch this video that will uncover the Biblical text of our message today:**

### **Section 2: Video Bible Text (7 Minute)**

**6 minute video of Peter walking on the water**

#### **Opening Paragraph**

The story of Peter walking on the water. On the surface we have an exciting adventure at sea, where Jesus with supernatural power saves a disciple from drowning. And for thousands of years ever since We are enamored by the fact that Peter walked on water. The point of this story is not the miracle of walking on the water it is about the relationship between Jesus and his followers. It was an example to teach them about their faith. Just like Jesus healed people in the Bible to get their attention so he could tell them about Heaven and the Kingdom of Heaven. So

don't get so distracted by the MIRACLE that you miss the point of the miracle. Peter was considered the closest to Jesus and the leader of the pack but Jesus exposes his weakness in faith and teaches Peter that he must still rely on Jesus.

### **Section 3: Bible Story unfolds (1 Minute)**

Matthew 14:22-33

- <sup>22</sup> Jesus told his disciples to get into their boat and to go to the other side of the lake while he stayed behind to dismiss the people.
- <sup>23</sup> Jesus went up into the hills to pray.
- And as night fell he was there praying alone with God.
- <sup>24</sup> But the disciples, who were now in the middle of the lake, ran into trouble,
- their boat was tossed about by the high winds and heavy seas.

<sup>25</sup> At about four o'clock in the morning,<sup>(a)</sup> Jesus came to them, walking on the waves! <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on top of the water, they were terrified and screamed, "A ghost!"

- In the OT the Sea represents Chaos and uncertainty
- Jesus walks on the water to declare His ability to bring calmness and foundation to what you are doing

<sup>27</sup> Then Jesus said, "Be brave and don't be afraid. I am here!:"

<sup>28</sup> Peter shouted out, “Lord, if it’s really you, then have me join you on the water!”

- Jesus didn’t ask him to do it, Peter initiates the request because it was in his heart to do.
- We all have DREAMS in our heart that we want to do. What is your dream

<sup>29</sup> “Come and join me,” Jesus replied.

- Jesus is saying that today about your dreams. Come and Join me.
- Jesus wants to JOIN you in your dream. That is why he put it in your heart.
- You are in a PARTNERSHIP with Jesus. You are co-owners of your dream

So Peter stepped out onto the water and **began to walk** toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he **realized how high** the waves were, **he became frightened** and started to sink. “Save me, Lord!” he cried out.

- What’s interesting is that Jesus said come, He didn’t say come and everything will be fine and you will never falter. He simply said come.
- It is easy to get caught up in the circumstances surrounding our dream.
- If we are not careful analysis quickly turns into skepticism
- This picture correctly describes how we feel when everything we believe in is sinking all around us (Marriage, Kids, Finances, Health, Dreams, Job)



- Jesus already agreed to walk with you in your dream. You don't have to cry out to God in FEAR asking where HE is. Just Pray in confidence.
- The same disciplined passion it took to declare "Jesus here I come with my dream" is the same disciplined passion it is going to take to fight past the sight of your Dream dying"

<sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately stretched out his hand and lifted him up and said, "What little faith you have! Why would you let doubt win?"

- Remember they just came from Jesus feeding 5,000 people supernaturally
  - Remember those days when you had no money and payday was three days away and you are couch surfing looking for loose change so you can buy some food. Jesus just couch surfed and was able to feed 5,000. The disciples Faith was at an all time high or so they thought. Jesus allows this sinking of Peter to reinforce the idea that You don't need a high faith level based on one miracle but a steady level of faith based on your everyday life with Christ.
- Jesus is teaching them to look to Jesus and then keep looking to Jesus
- When we look at what is going wrong and we begin to get depressed or frustrated we actually break PARTNERSHIP with Jesus in our dreams

<sup>32</sup> And the very moment they both stepped into the boat, the raging wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> Then all the disciples crouched down before him and worshiped Jesus.

☒ They said in adoration, “You are truly the Son of God!”

- The amazing thing is not that Peter walked on the water. We all do that to some extent
- Whenever you go after your dream you are walking on the water.
- Going after something by Faith.
- The amazing part is that after FAILING...SINKING... He walked back to the boat. It doesn't say that Jesus carried him or drug him by His hair.
- In fact, it says that Peter stepped into the boat
- The big question isn't "Will you get out of your boat and go after your dream."
- The big question is "Will you get up and start walking again after you fail."