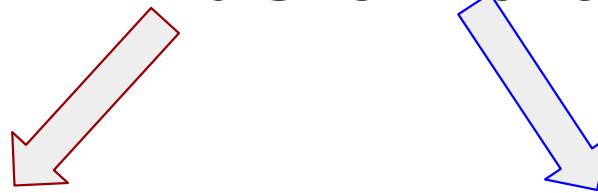


Our faith in Jesus feel strong until \_\_\_\_\_

1. Faith that feels strong — until prayers go unanswered.
2. Faith that feels strong — until unmet desire seems unbearable
3. Faith that feels strong — until rejection hits.
4. Faith that feels strong — until plans fall apart.
5. Faith that feels strong — until we succumb to temptations

## 2 kinds of faith



**Faith that feels  
strong — but  
fades in the  
storm and  
wind.**

**Faith that  
grows stronger  
— above the  
storm and  
wind.**

# Matthew 14

## Main idea:

Teaching the disciples to fix their eyes on Jesus,  
with a faith that grows stronger and rises above the storm and wind.

## Outline

- Retreating to a solitary place (14:1-13)
- Recognising Jesus' identity (14:14-21)
- Realigning our focus on Jesus when we start to sink (14:22-31)
- Responding to Jesus with worship and understanding (14:32-36)

## Matthew 13 (What is to happen)

Jesus began teaching in parables to reveal truth to disciples with open hearts and to conceal it from the spiritually hardened.

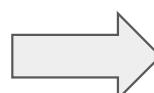
- **The Parable of the Sower**

Jesus describes four types of soil (hearts) and how they receive the Word of God—some reject it, some receive it but fall away, and some bear fruit.



- **The Parable of the Weeds**

Good and wickedness coexist in the world until the final judgment, when God will separate the righteous from the wicked.



- **The Parables of the Mustard Seed and Yeast:**

Show how the kingdom of heaven starts small but grows powerfully and permeates everything.



## Matthew 14 (How does that look like)

Shows how the truths Jesus taught in parables take shape in His ministry. While Herod embodies the hardened soil and wicked weeds — Jesus continues to focus on God's kingdom

- Herod **rejected** John's truth, choosing pride and pleasure over repentance.

- Herod **wickedly** execute John the baptist to maintain his reputation before his guests. He also failed to recognise Jesus' identity

- Jesus continues growing His kingdom by **revealing** His identity to disciples (feeding the 5000 with compassion and power over nature like walking on water) and the call to disciples to step out in faith.

## 1 main idea

Teaching the disciples to fix their eyes on Jesus

With faith that grows stronger & rise above the storm and wind

### (1) By recognising Jesus' identity

- And after retreating by boat and landing, He saw a crowd who followed him.
- Jesus is committed to ministry despite personal grief over John's death and Herod's threat
- Compassion for the large crowd & heals the sick
- Power to multiply 5 loaves & 2 fishes to meet the needs of 5000
- Jesus is the true Shepherd and Provider

>> twelve basketfuls of broken pieces represent **12 tribes of Israel**

>> suggesting Jesus is the bread of life & symbolizes **restoration to kingdom of God**

>> & parallels how **God provided manna** in the wilderness for the Israelites during the Exodus

## 1 main idea

Teaching the disciples to fix their eyes on Jesus

With faith that grows stronger & rise above the storm and wind

### **(2) Realign our focus on Jesus when we start to sink (14:22-31)**

#### **What happened here?**

- Jesus made the disciples get into the boat. He is intentional (v22)
- The disciples' boat had gone far out from the shore.
- Jesus went out to the disciples, walking on the lake (v25)
- The disciples were terrified at first, until Jesus identified himself “It is I”
- Peter ask to join his Master on the waves and he did!
- Until he saw the strength of the wind.

## (2) Realigning our focus on Jesus when we start to sink (14:22-31)

Doubt comes when we **shift** our focus. However even in failure, Peter turned to Jesus.

His first instinct when sinking wasn't to swim – but to cry out, "**Lord, save me!**"

Jesus corrects, not condemns. Jesus wants us to reflect on our **fears and doubts**

- Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter. (v22)
- “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” (v31)

Jesus is not rejecting Peter – He's gently pointing out where **growth** is needed.

## 1 main idea

Teaching the disciples to fix their eyes on Jesus

With faith that grows stronger & rise above the storm and wind

### **(3) Responding to Jesus with worship and understanding (14:32-36)**

- The moment Jesus gets into the boat, the storm stops (v32)
- Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God (v33)

The disciples went from fear and struggle to **a moment of worship and deeper revelation** of Jesus' identity. He is Lord

Our experiences of Jesus' power and presence should lead us to **worship and declare who He truly is.**