

LifeGroup Deep Dive | “Dancing on the Water” 04/12

Main Passage:

Matthew 14:28–30

Supporting Passages:

Hebrews 10:38, Isaiah 43:5–6, Hebrews 1:3, Deuteronomy 33:27, Mark 11:23, Exodus 14:15

Main Idea / Question:

Faith isn't just stepping out of the boat—it's learning how to stay on the water when everything in you wants to sink.

This week, we're not just asking: *“Have I stepped out?”*

We're asking: *“What is my reflex when the wind starts?”*

PORCH TALK

(Surface → Soul conversation)

Conversation Starters (choose 3–4):

When was a time you stepped out in faith and it felt real?

What usually causes your faith to waver after you've already started?

Do you find it easier to start in faith or sustain it? Why?

What are the “winds” in your life right now?

Where do you feel like you've stepped out... but are now struggling to stay up?

Ask: *What am I looking at right now that is louder than Jesus?*

Name it: Fear, Pressure, Circumstances, Control

Supporting Scriptures: Psalm 20:7, Isaiah 41:10, Romans 8:31–32, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Joshua 1:9, Psalm 46:1–3, Philippians 4:13, Hebrews 12:2

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LIVING ROOM

(Deeper discipleship & formation)

1) Faith Starts With His Word — Not Your Confidence

Read: Matthew 14:28–29; Hebrews 10:38

Context: Peter didn’t step out because he felt bold—he stepped out because he heard Jesus.

Say: Faith doesn’t begin with strength...it begins with response.

Ask (slow down here): Where in your life has God already said “Come”... but you’ve hesitated? Do you tend to wait for clarity, comfort, or confirmation before obeying? What does it reveal about our faith when we need more than His word? What would obedience look like if His word was enough?

 **Reflection Verse:**

“The just shall live by faith...” — Hebrews 10:38

2) Faith Is Sustained by Focus

Read: Matthew 14:30; Hebrews 1:3

Context: Peter walked... until he looked away.

Say: What you focus on will either sustain your faith... or sink it.

Ask: What has captured your attention more than Jesus lately? Where have you shifted from faith → fear? Why does fear feel more real than truth in certain moments? How does focus shape faith more than circumstances?

Supporting Scriptures: Psalm 20:7, Isaiah 41:10, Romans 8:31–32, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Joshua 1:9, Psalm 46:1–3, Philippians 4:13, Hebrews 12:2

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3) Faith Walks Through — Not Around — Obstacles

Read: Mark 11:23; Exodus 14:15

Context: Faith doesn't wait for conditions to change— it moves forward in the middle of them.

Say: Faith doesn't remove every obstacle... it gives you the courage to move through it

Ask: Where are you waiting for things to change before moving forward? What “mountain” feels immovable in your life right now? Do you believe God can move it—or that you must manage it? What would forward movement look like today—not someday?

4) When You Sink — What Do You Do Next?

Read: Matthew 14:30; Deuteronomy 33:27

Context: Peter begins to sink—but he cries out.

Say: Sinking isn't failure. Silence is.

Ask: What is your reflex when things fall apart—panic, control, or surrender? Where have you been trying to recover instead of calling out to Jesus? What does Peter's response teach us about honest faith? Do you believe God is holding you—even when you feel like you're falling?

Let prayer become your reflex.

Supporting Scriptures: Psalm 20:7, Isaiah 41:10, Romans 8:31–32, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Joshua 1:9, Psalm 46:1–3, Philippians 4:13, Hebrews 12:2

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AFTER GLOW

(Prayerful reflection & ministry space)

Read: Isaiah 43:5–6

Say: God doesn’t just call you out...He carries you through. And over time, what once felt impossible becomes natural.

Reflective Questions

Where is God asking you to trust Him again? What would it look like to stay on the water this time? Where have you been afraid to step again after sinking before? What would it look like to trust that He is holding you right now?

Reflection Thought:

Walk with Him long enough...
and what once felt impossible becomes your rhythm.

After Glow Moment — From Fear to Faith

Have everyone reflect: *Where am I sinking right now?*

Then pray: “Jesus, I trust You to hold me—even here.”

FOLLOW-UP & CHALLENGE

Hear His Word. Where is He saying “Come”?

Refocus Your Eyes. Shift attention from fear → Jesus.

Take One Step. Move forward, even if it’s small.

Build the Reflex. Let prayer replace panic.

Supporting Scriptures: Psalm 20:7, Isaiah 41:10, Romans 8:31–32, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Joshua 1:9, Psalm 46:1–3, Philippians 4:13, Hebrews 12:2