

# IMPACT

## leaving the boat

Sunday, April 2, 2006

*“Lord, if it’s you, tell me to come to you on the water.”*

*- Simon Peter (Matthew 14:28)*

### IMPACT:

- The power of making a *strong, immediate* impression.

### THE TEXT

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.”

“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

“Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God” (Matthew 14:22-33, NIV).

### WHAT IS OUR BOAT?

1. The boat is whatever represents *safety* and *security* apart from God.
2. The boat is whatever we are tempted to put our *trust* in – especially in life’s storms!
3. The boat is whatever keeps us so *comfortable* that we’re not willing to give it up.
4. The boat is whatever *pulls us away* from God.

The question that reveals what our boat is:

- *What is the thing that produces fear in me – especially if I were to lose it?*