

One evening the disciples set out by boat and left Jesus on the shore. In the middle of the night they were far out into the winds and waves, and Jesus went to them by walking on the water. As he approached, they were first terrified because they thought it was a ghost, but when Jesus spoke they realized it was Him. Peter, always being the first to speak up, tells the Lord to prove it by calling him out of the boat. [We all know how it played out after Jesus' invitation](#) - Peter had a moment of faith and focus on the Lord, until the waves got louder and drew his attention away and weakened his faith.

Why did Peter even get himself into this situation? Couldn't he have just waited for Jesus to reach the boat and hop in with them? Despite what seemed practical, **Peter knew who Jesus was and what He was capable of, and He wanted to be with Him!** Jesus proved Himself once again that He is able to grant that which we ask of Him, especially when it is a matter of pursuing Him.

So what went wrong? Did Jesus plan on carrying Peter only part of the way, and then “teaching Him a lesson” by causing him to fall? Of course not! It was only when Peter’s faith was threatened that he began to sink. But remember this - Peter did not drown! Sure, his faith wavered and he started to go under, but at that moment the hand of the Lord reached out and grabbed him, pulling him up before it was too late. **Jesus did carry him the whole way, even after Peter ran out of faith.**

It’s so important, in this “in between” season that we are in as a community, to remember that we did not get here on our own. We have been called out by the heart of God, “Come!” We are not lost. [We are not wandering aimlessly](#). We are journeying with purpose, and at the [pace determined by our Guide](#). While there are moments of uncertainty, it is encouraging to know that where our own faith runs out, Jesus will meet us there and carry us the whole way!

In 2018, I preached a message from Numbers 9 on how the Israelites navigated the journey from Egypt to the promised land. They had never been that way before, but God Himself led them with the cloud of His presence. [You can check that message out here](#). I believe this message was prophetic for where we are today.

In our own journey things may seem cloudy, but times like this should be expected, not surprising. **We should never think that just because things aren't perfectly clear that God is not in it, or that He is not the one that led us here.**

Where we are going never looks the same as where we came from. If it did, are we really going anywhere?

[If we're in the desert because the spirit led us there, we are still in the right place!](#)

On the water, in the fog, and in the desert - the presence of God was there in that moment, saying, "Come!" As a church, God is calling us forward and He is leading the way.

With all this said, it is so important that we come together and stay together on the journey. It is not something we can do in our own silos! [We must travel as one people, encouraging one another, giving and receiving from one another.](#)

Toward this end, we are taking **two action steps this coming month.**

On May 4 at 6pm, we are calling the whole church together for a **Listening Meeting.** After a brief dinner together, we will give time for prayer and sharing what is being experienced and heard throughout our community.

Then on Friday, May 20, we will be dedicating the evening for prayer at Graceway building. The **all night prayer vigil** will run through the night, concluding at 6:30am.

Let's determine together to press into the presence of God and strengthen one another's faith to follow Him the whole way.

~ Pastor Ed