

## BUILDING A STRONG RESPONSE FOR WHEN YOU'RE SINKING

Mark 6:45-52, Matthew 14:23-33, John 6:15-21

“Building Strong”

Bro. Mark Winn, Pastor, FBC Coahoma 8/30/15am

*“Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. After leaving them, he went up alone on a mountainside to pray. When evening came, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. About the fourth watch of the night he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost! They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, ‘Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.’ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.”* Mark 6:45-52 (NIV)

### I. HOW TO KNOW THAT YOU’RE SINKING

- When I can’t see my way
  - John 6:17a *By now it was dark...*”
- When I feel I’m on my own
  - Jn. 6:17b *Jesus had not yet joined them”*
- When I feel I’m out of my comfort zone
  - Mark 6:47 *“the boat was in the middle of the lake”*
  - Matt. 14:24 *“They were a long way from shore”*
- When Strong forces are against me
  - Matt. 14:24b *“tossed around and battered by waves”*
  - John 6:18 *“the waters grew rough!”*
  - Mark 6:48 *“the wind was against them”*
- When I’m struggling, but I’m not making any progress
  - Mark 6:48 (LB) *“they were in serious trouble, rowing hard and struggling against the wind and waves.”*
  -

### II. WHAT DOES JESUS DO WHEN I FEEL LIKE I’M SINKING?

1. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ for me before it happens  
Matt. 14:23 <sup>23</sup> *After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray---*
2. Jesus notices my \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark 6:48a *“He saw the disciples straining at the oars.”*  
Job 31:4 *“He sees everything I do and counts every step I take.”*  
Hebrews 4:15 *“Jesus is able to sympathize with our weaknesses. He was tempted in every way that we are, but he didn’t sin.”*
3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to me at my moment of desperation.  
Mark 6:48b *“About the fourth watch of the night he went out to them, walking on the lake.”*  
John 14:18 (LB) *“I will not abandon you or leave you as orphans in the storm--I WILL come to you!”*
4. Jesus shows me his true \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark 6:49-50 *“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.’”*

### III. WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I FEEL LIKE I'M SINKING? (Build a Strong Response)

1) I need to have \_\_\_\_\_ because Jesus is with me.

**Mark 6:50** “Jesus said to them ‘Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid!’”

2) I need to take a \_\_\_\_\_ in faith.

**Matt. 14:28-29 (NIV)** “‘Lord, if it's you,’ Peter replied, ‘tell me to come to you on the water!’ ‘Come,’ Jesus said. So Peter got out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.”

3) I Need to Stay \_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus

**Matt. 14:30 (NLT)** “But when Peter looked around at the high waves, he was terrified and began to sink. ‘Save me, Lord!’ he shouted.”

4) I don't \_\_\_\_\_

**Matt. 14:31 (NIV)** “Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. ‘You of little faith,’ he said, ‘Why did you doubt?’”

5) I need to \_\_\_\_\_ God

**Matt. 14:32-33 (NIV)** “‘When Jesus 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.’”