

Last week we looked at Jesus as *Lord of Provision* in the feeding of the five thousand. This week we look at John 6:16-21 and Jesus as *Lord of Fear*.

1. Have you ever been afraid? What arouses fear within you? How did you respond, or deal with your fears?
2. **Read John 6:15-17.** John explains why Jesus was not with his disciples as they crossed the sea in a boat.
  - What did the people wish to do with Jesus following His miraculous feeding of the crowd? Why did they want to do this?
  - In what ways do people act similarly today?
3. **Read John 6:17-19.**
  - What occurred while the disciples were in the boat? What does John tell us about the emotional state of the disciples after they see Jesus?
  - What are some of the reasons the disciples might have been “frightened”?
4. In **John 6:20**, Jesus reassures the disciples prior to joining them. Notice His words carefully
  - The first clause of his answer (“It is I”) in the original language are the same two words used to begin statements in **John 6:35; 8:12; 10:7, 11; 11:25; 14:6; and 15:1**. Literally they may be translated “I am.” What significance could these words have had to his Jewish disciples?
  - What else does Jesus say to calm his disciples?
5. **Read verse 21.** What is the reaction of the disciples to the appearance of Jesus and to his reassurance?

6. Two other gospels also report this sign. Compare each account. What common details are included in each?

**Matthew 14:22-33**

**Mark 6:45-52**

**John 6:16-21**

- What does John include that the others don't?
- As we study the signs in John's gospel, and how these point us toward belief in who Jesus is (John 20:30-31), why are these details significant?

7. In **verse 21**, John says that “immediately” the boat reached their destination. Does this indicate yet another supernatural event?

8. What other fearful moments has Jesus addressed:

- Matthew 17:7; 28:5 & 10
- Luke 5:10; 12:32
- Matthew 10:26, 28, 31; 14:27
- John 14:27

9. As *Lord of Fear*, Jesus not only calmed the fears of the disciples and the weather causing them distress, he also crossed through the problem area they had thought was between them and Him. Thus we can see that He is able to cross barriers to guide and help His followers. What are some barriers that Jesus might need to cross to help you today?

9. Simple Questions:

- What might we learn about human nature from this *sign*?
- What might this *sign* tell us about our common needs?
- What is this *sign* telling us about Jesus?

Pray That God would allow you to recognize Him as the Lord of Fear and that He will help you overcome fear in your life this week.