

FAMILY PRAYER

WEEK BY WEEK



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A
9 August 2020

**"Command me to come to you
over the water."**

Something to Think About

Today's story begins with a storm scene. We all face storms in our lives, difficult times that cause us to tremble and shake with fear. In the story, Peter calls out to Jesus, 'If it really is you Lord, tell me to come to you on the water.' He is fine while he believes, but as soon as he begins to doubt, he starts to sink. Sometimes it is really hard to keep believing. However Jesus tells us to trust him and he will look after us.

The Story

This week's passage from Matthew is about a time when Peter discovered he could walk on water if he kept focussing on Jesus.

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

14:25-31

A little while before morning, Jesus came walking on the water toward his disciples. When they saw him, they thought he was a ghost.

They were terrified and started screaming.

At once Jesus said to them, "Don't worry! I am Jesus. Don't be afraid."

Peter replied, "Lord, if it is really you, tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come on!" Jesus said. Peter then got out of the boat

and started walking on the water toward him. But when Peter saw how strong the wind was, he was afraid and started sinking.

"Lord, save me!" he shouted. Right away Jesus reached out his hand.

He helped Peter up and said,

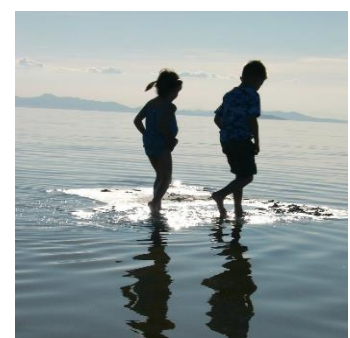
"You surely don't have much faith. Why do you doubt?"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video.

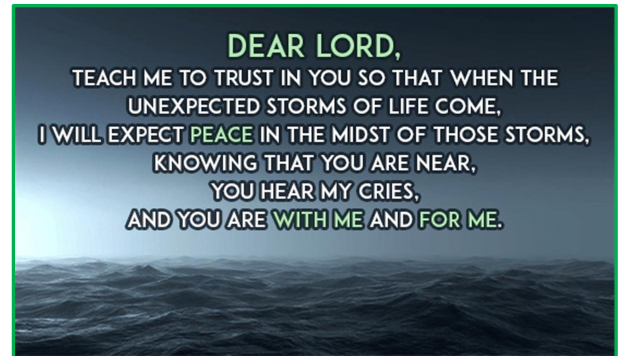
[Jesus Walks on the Water](#)



THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Prayer

Say this prayer together at bedtime this week.



Family Discussion

Talk together about 'storms' you have faced in your lives, events that threw you off balance, those difficult times that caused you to be scared, fearful. How did you get over those troubles, fears? Talk about how Jesus is always with us reaching out his hand to help us in our times of trouble. Jesus wants us to have faith and trust in him.

Family Activity

You will need two glasses or containers half filled with water, salt, and two fresh eggs. Stir three tablespoons of salt into one of the glasses. Mark the glass with salted water 'faith' and the plain water 'doubt'.

Together, retell the story and talk about what would happen if you tried to walk on water as Jesus did. Carefully place an egg into the 'faith' water (hopefully the egg floats). Then place the other egg into the 'doubt' glass (the egg should sink). Talk about what happened to Peter as he placed his faith in Jesus, but when he took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink like the egg in the 'doubt' glass.

Each member of the family can retell a situation they have faced, placing an egg in the 'faith' or 'doubt' glass depending on how they acted in the situation.

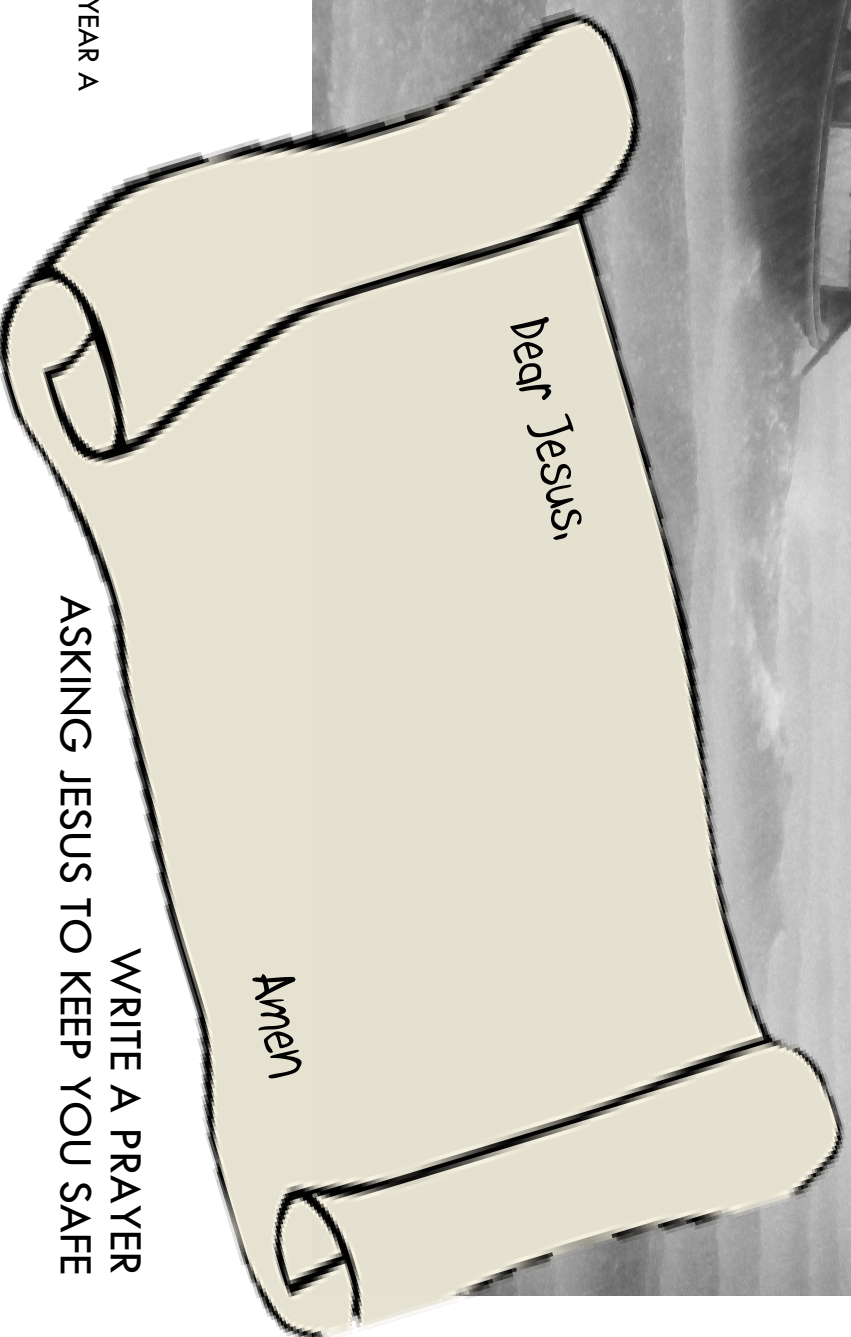


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**JESUS
KEEPS YOU
SAFE FROM
DANGER
TOO**

**JESUS
KEEPS THE
APOSTLES
SAFE IN A
STORM**



Dear Jesus,

Amen

WRITE A PRAYER
ASKING JESUS TO KEEP YOU SAFE