



Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

Day 4: Verse 2

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sovereign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

Scripture Reference

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.

- *Matthew 14: 30-32*



After ending yesterday seeing Peter's obedience to Jesus and subsequent walking on water, we begin today finding Peter sinking. Oh, what a quick change. Fear began to surround Peter, and his feet began to fail. Why is that? For even just a split second, Peter turned his attention away from Jesus and to his surroundings – to the wind and waves. Isn't it so easy to turn our attention for even a moment in our lives? It's so easy to talk ourselves out of our calling. Even when we know God has called us, we can look to the struggles, insecurities, fears, and uncertainties. In those moments of diversion, we can begin to fail.

Have you ever become distracted or uncertain about a calling in your life? What caused the distraction – struggles, insecurities, fears, uncertainties, etc.? Are you currently talking yourself out of calling (i.e. putting it on hold, trying to "better understand" it first, finishing something else first, etc.)?

Peter calls out to Jesus to save him and, immediately, Jesus catches Peter. Jesus saves Peter. Peter was never out of the very capable and wide reach of Jesus. The same is true in our lives. If we stumble on our journey, Jesus is there to catch us. Whether our feet fail or fear surrounds us, Jesus is there. Jesus didn't fail – Peter did. Jesus has never failed us. He never will.

In what areas right now in your life do you feel your feet failing or fear surrounding you? Cry out to Jesus. Ask for His protection and guidance. Feel His presence. Jesus won't fail you now.



What is Jesus' response to Peter and to us when we stumble? "Why did you doubt?" This can be seen as an expression of frustration, but it is also an invitation to process and learn from our shortcomings. Jesus is asking Peter and us to think through why we lacked faith. Even in this, Jesus extends grace even in the deepest waters. In our own lives, emotions will come in waves, crashing over us, and maybe even causing us to doubt for even a moment. Jesus invites us to better understand our doubt, so that our faith may grow. What a gracious Savior we have!

Earlier, you wrote about areas of failure or fear. Take a few minutes to think through why you feared or doubted in those areas. Jesus invites you to grow your faith by learning from your past fear and doubts.

After the literal waves and emotional waves (both elation and fear), Jesus and Peter climb into the boat. His sovereign hand led Peter back into the boat. Then, the wind dies down. As always, Jesus is in control of all things. He is a perfect Guide, bringing Peter to safety and controlling the wind itself. Jesus' sovereign hand guides us as well, both in the storms and in the callings.

End today confessing to the Lord when you have ignored His promptings, invitations, or callings. Feel the grace of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and rest even in those confessions. Thank Him for His guidance in your life.
