

**Confidence in any Circumstance**

Matthew 14:22-33

June 19, 2022

**Introduction:** We're rightly suspicious of authority. "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely," Lord Acton quips. But one day Jesus met a Roman soldier who understood the power of being under power. "I am a man under authority," he says, and because I am, "I say to one 'Go', and he goes." Maybe today we feel so impotent because we're so intent on throwing off authority and becoming our own. The Bible offers an alternative: to find the authority in our lives under the authority of a great King.

**Prayer:** Father, Thank you for this text about Peter and his confidence in Jesus to help him. Amen.

**Review:** What impressed you about the centurion story?

**Read:** Matthew 14:22-33

**Discussion:**

1. Why does Jesus make his disciples get into the boat and leave him? What did Jesus do instead?
2. Do you think it was important for Jesus to be alone? Explain.
3. Is it easier to believe that someone walking on the water is a ghost or that it is Jesus? Why did the disciples think it was a ghost?
4. What encourages you about the actions of Peter and his interaction with Jesus?
5. Personal reflection: have you had a time when the "wind was against you" but Jesus climbed into your boat and things died down?

**Application:** This week know that Jesus is always aware of the real circumstances in our lives and that he wants us to live life under him and not under the circumstances.

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord for this real life event which is all about confidence in you. Amen.