Faith Matters

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Daily Devotional, Monday, April 10, 2017 - Walking with Jesus in a Storm

APRIL 10TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Matthew 14:22-33

It was night. There were high winds, crashing waves, and low visibility. For the disciples, who were on the sea in a small boat, the situation had reached crisis proportions—and Jesus was not with them. While they were dealing with the frightening weather, He was on the mountainside praying.

In the midst of the storm, perhaps the disciples thought Jesus had forgotten them. However, He knew exactly where they were and what they were experiencing. Though we can't see Jesus physically, He is omniscient—He can identify where we are at every moment. No darkness can hide us; no trial can obscure His vision. We are always seen, known, and understood!

Leaving that place of prayer, Jesus sought out the disciples. And He will do the same for us. However, the Twelve didn't recognize Him because He went to them by walking on the water. Jesus often does not come in the way that we expect. Our preconceived ideas of how He works can make us wonder where He might be and can blind us to how near He actually is.

Experiencing Jesus' presence in hard times can teach us precious truths. During an earlier rough sea adventure, the disciples had observed both Jesus' trust in God and His authority over nature (Matt. 8:23-26). In the latest storm, they watched the Lord walk on

water—and they saw one of their own do it, too. Through the storms, they learned who Jesus was, what He could do, and what their own potential was.

When turmoil hits, let's ask for spiritual eyes to discern the Lord's presence. Then, we must listen for His voice and obey (John 10:27).

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