

Perseverance

Matt 14:22-36

1) Life is full of challenges.

Matt 14:24-25

24 but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

25 During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

- It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena.... Who at best knows in the end the triumph of great achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly. So that his place will never be with those timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.

Theodore Roosevelt.

2) God has not called you to be safe He has called you to get out of the boat.

There is a price for anything in God and in this world. You have to get out of the boat sometime. **There is a guarantee. That if you don't get out of the boat you will not walk on water.**

3) Perseverance is the Price for growth.

- The choice to grow means facing your fears, facing the wind, facing the storm.
- The fear will never go away. Why? Because each time I want to grow, it will involve going into new territory, taking on new challenges.

4) Perseverance faces failure.

- **Peter sank. He failed. That is how you could read it**

Winston Churchill

- Winston Churchill was asked “ you mean you failed a year in grade school?”

He answered. “ I never failed anything in my life. I was given a second opportunity to get it right.”

4) God does not leave us to make it ourselves. He helps us persevere.

- **Matt 14:31**

31. Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

- Sir Edmund Hillary made several unsuccessful attempts at scaling Mount Everest before he finally succeeded. After one attempt he stood at the base of the giant mountain and shook his fist at it. "I'll defeat you yet" he said in defiance. "Because you're as big as you are going to get – but I'm still learning and growing"

Every time Hillary climbed, he failed. And every time he failed, he learned. And every time he learned, he grew and tried again. And one day he didn't fail.

Perseverance

- 1) Life is full of challenges**
- 2) He has called us to get out of the boat.**
- 3) Perseverance is the price for growth**
- 4) God does not leave us alone to persevere**