



SERIES: September 2022 – February 2023 Believe

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Saturday, October 29, 2022

Scripture: John 6:16-21

TITLE: Jesus Has the Power

How's it going? How is life going for you? Is it what you expected? What is that you want most in this life? If you're a follower of Christ, why isn't Christ enough? What is it in your life today that is too big for Jesus? What is it in your life today that seems too big of a problem for Jesus to get you through it?

We all long for something more. We all need help in our times of need. The real question is do we trust Jesus to be enough or not? That's what we want to talk about today as we continue our series "Believe." We are studying the book of John. Today we're picking up in John 6:16-21.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

Jesus has just fed the 5,000 men on the hill. It was a miracle that no one could deny. It was no illusion. It was supernatural. This was the fifth miracle or sign that John records. Jesus turned the water into wine. He healed the official's son. He healed the man who was crippled or sick for 38 years. He just fed 15-20,000 people with just 3 loaves of bread and two fish. And now He walks on the water.

John wrote this Gospel so that you might know and believe that Jesus is God and is the Savior of the world. Five miracles to back up Jesus' deity.

Jesus escaped up higher into the mountain. The disciples don't wait for Jesus to return. It's time to head out to Capernaum. It's somewhere between 6pm and 12am. They're rowing their boat. At least half of the disciples are fishermen, so they're used to the rough weather. It's tough regardless. The cool air sweeps down onto the water and creates a lot of movement. They're about halfway across the sea. It's a mess. They're tired. And they look and see Jesus walking on the water. It says they were frightened. All other miracles cause a sense of "awe." Here it's pure terror. There is some debate whether this is the same story as in the synoptic Gospels. I believe it is. So there are some details missing that the others include such as Peter leaving the boat to meet Jesus. What is unique about this story is the end of it. John writes, "immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going." In other words, it zoomed like a Mach 5 speed boat.

There is debate whether or not this is what John intended. It frankly doesn't matter. What matters is the point. Jesus is God. He can heal the sick. He can turn water into wine. He knows your inner most thoughts. He can multiply resources. And He can walk on water. No parlor tricks or illusions. It was a pure miracle.

So how about you? What is it in your life today that Jesus can't handle? What is it that you are trying to do in your own power that can and should be turned over to Jesus? A broken relationship? A distressed marriage? A prodigal child? Overwhelming debt? An addiction to pornography or alcohol? A constant battle with your health and weight? All of these are symptoms of a greater heart problem that only Jesus can fix. Jesus has the power. He has the desire. Jesus is our hope and solution for our greatest need. My challenge and prayer for you today is that you believe in Jesus' power and that you turn to Him today.