

# Bringing it Home For Sunday, August 9, 2026

By Allison de Kanel



Saint Peter was one of Jesus's best friends. He left home to follow Jesus. He was there when Jesus taught, and he was there when Jesus healed people. He trusted and loved Jesus.

When Jesus asked his friends who they thought he was, it was Peter who said, "You are the Messiah, the son of the living God." It was the right answer!

But Peter was human, and sometimes he blurted something out without thinking about it. In today's Bible story, he acted first and thought later.

Jesus's friends were in a boat crossing the water while Jesus prayed alone. Early in the morning Jesus walked to the boat. He was walking on the water. The disciples freaked out -- maybe it was a ghost? But Jesus reassured them. It was really Jesus, and they didn't need to be afraid.

At this point, Peter challenged Jesus. He dared Jesus to order Peter to come to him on the water. Then Jesus called Peter's bluff. He told Peter to come.

Now Peter was stuck. But he was brave. He got out of the boat and started walking on the water!

Then he started to think. What was he doing? He trusted Jesus, sure. But this was impossible! As he started to think, he started to sink. I bet he took his eyes off Jesus and looked around him. Taking his eyes off Jesus was not a good idea!

Jesus rescued him, of course, and teased him, too.

When I think about this story, I wonder if I would have been as brave as Peter. Do you think you would have got out of the boat if Jesus called you?

Let's pray. Dear Jesus, you are amazing. Thank you for being my friend, even when my faith is weak. Help me to follow you, and to keep my eyes on you when life is tough. Amen.

**Today's Bible Reading:** Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Illustration from [ministry-to-children.com](http://ministry-to-children.com).