Keep Your Eyes On Jesus Sun Am KZ Lesson 5/28/23

# Memory Verse: Matthew 14:30 NKJV

# 30But when he saw that the wind *was* boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!”

Target Thought: If we are to follow Jesus, we need to keep our eyes on him.

In our Bible lesson today, Simon Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, learned a lesson about the importance of keeping their eyes upon Jesus! Sometimes situations or people can cause us to take our eyes off Jesus. People can often times say things to us that are NOT true to trick us into doing the wrong things. Just because someone says something to you doesn’t make it true. Remember satan lies to us and tricks us too. Sometimes people or circumstances will try to pressure us into saying, thinking or doing the wrong things this is called peer pressure, we will learn more about that later.

Jesus and his disciples had had a long, hard day. Jesus had been teaching a huge crowd of people and healing the sick. His disciples had just finished passing out food to a crowd of more than 5,000 men, women, and children. They were very tired. Jesus told the disciples to get in their boat and go to the other side of Lake Galilee. He sent the crowds away and went to a quiet place to be alone and pray.

Jesus had told the disciples to do something right? Does that mean that He had already given them the ability to do it and that it was His will for them to do that? Yes of course it was Jesus’ will and He had already given them the ability to get to the other side of the lake.

Later in the night, the boat was quite a distance from the shore when the wind came up and the water became rough with waves. Just like this storm that came up on the lake, sometimes circumstances will come into our life that makes it a challenge to do what Jesus has told us to do. Jesus went out toward the boat walking on the water. When the disciples saw him they were afraid.

"It's a ghost," they cried.

Jesus answered, "Don't be afraid, take courage, it's me!"

Peter called out to him, "Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," said Jesus.

So, Peter climbed out of the boat and started walking on the water toward Jesus. But when he started looking around and saw the waves being blown about by the wind. He was afraid and he began to sink. "Lord, save me!" he cried.

Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter. "Why did you doubt?" Jesus asked.

Why do you think Peter began to sink? That's right, he began to look around at the mess he was in and took his eyes off of Jesus. As long as he kept his eyes on Jesus, he was fine, but when he took his eyes off of Jesus, he began to sink. You and I may encounter some pretty rough times in our life. As long as we keep our eyes upon Jesus and put our trust in him, we will be okay. But when we take our eyes off of Jesus and put our confidence in our own ability, or what other people say or try to convince to do,we will surely sink!

We can’t always believe everything what other people or satan tells us. We can’t get into fear or under a pressure to do or think the wrong things just because of people or circumstances. We must keep our eyes on Jesus, trust and obey and He will keep us safe and taken care of always. Jesus will never leave us, lie to us or trick us into bad things.

Dear Lord Jesus, when the storms of life come against us, help us to remember to keep our eyes on you and keep our faith and trust in you. In your name we pray. Amen.

1 True or false? To follow Jesus we must keep our eyes on Him?

2 Just because someone says something does that mean it is always true?

3 Will circumstances come into our life that makes it a challenge to follow and obey Jesus?

4 When Peter got his eyes (his trust) off of Jesus and began to sink, did Jesus save him?

5 To stay safe and taken care of by Jesus do we have to always trust and obey Him?