

ROCK THE BOAT

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Look

In his sermon, Peter talked about the life preserver and boat representing our comfort zone, and the water representing risk. Peter stepped out of his “boat” to give a sermon when he would have been far more comfortable sitting behind the piano.

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how big of a risk taker are you?
2. What is your “boat”? What would it take to get you out of it?

Book

Matthew 14:22-33

1. Why would Jesus order the disciples to go ahead of him in the boat?
2. How do the disciples react to the sight of Jesus walking on the water towards them? How would you react?
3. What do you make of Peter’s bold attempt to walk towards Jesus on the water? When is he successful and when does he begin to sink?
4. We both admire and ridicule Peter for his impetuous confidence. Why would Jesus choose this man to build the church on?

Took

Most of the disciples stayed in the boat. Peter got out. Jesus saves them all from the storm and from their fears. Their reaction is to recognize and to worship Jesus as the Son of God.

1. Life inevitably takes us out of the boat – either by choice or by storm. What gives you courage during these times?
2. Peter ended his sermon by noting that our community saves us from “drowning”. What are some of the ways you have witnessed this?
3. Where might God be challenging you to take a risk, a leap of faith?