

### Following Jesus makes life better.

### "I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full."

Jesus

## Better doesn't always mean comfortable or convenient.

If you're looking for comfort and convenience, Jesus may not be what you're looking for.

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Jesus

## Following Jesus won't always be easy but it will always be best.

## Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him...

Matthew 8:23 NIV

He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?"

Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Matthew 8:27 NIV

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.

After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone,

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

#### Matthew 14:24 NIV

## Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

Matthew 14:25 NIV

When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: "You pansies! Don't you remember the last time...

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," he said.

#### Matthew 14:29 NIV

"Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

#### Matthew 14:30 NIV

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

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

## When you step up and step out, God will show up and show out.

# Your next step may be inconvenient but it won't be inconsequential.

# Your next step may be uncomfortable but it won't be unprofitable.

## What is your uncomfortable and inconvenient next step?

Father, give me the wisdom to know the right thing to do and the courage to do it, even when it's hard.