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| Shape  Description automatically generated with low confidence |  | Pastor Ricky Jenkins  October 29-30, 2022  Message #43 / 2 Samuel 22 |
|  | northcoastchurch.com/sermons |

**Big Faith, Big God**

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**Life Group Study Questions**

**For the week of October 30, 2022**

**quick review**

What stood out to you most from what you heard or read in this weekend’s message?

**My Story**

1. Ricky shared with us what faith is and what faith is not. Are there any definitions or understandings of faith you have had in your lifetime that have changed over time? (i.e., “I used to think faith was… but now I…”)

2. This weekend, we saw how we can confidently trust God because He is big enough. What is the most trusting relationship you’ve ever seen or been in? What made it a trusting relationship? Do you see any similarities between that relationship and your relationship with God?

**digging deeper**

1. This weekend, Ricky reminded us of what it means to have big faith in a big God, who is more than able to come through and take care of all our needs. Peter provides us with a vivid picture of faith in Matthew 14:22-33. Read the passage and write out a definition of faith in your own words based on the example of Peter in the passage.

***Matthew 14:22-33 New International Version (NIV)***

***22****Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.****23****After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone,****24****and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.*

***25****Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.****26****When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.*

***27****But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”*

***28****“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”*

***29****“Come,” he said.*

*Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.****30****But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”*

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

***32****And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.****33****Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”*

Verse 30 describes a turning point when Peter takes his eyes off Jesus, sees the wind and starts to sink. When you think about your own life, on a scale of 1-10 (1 - never, 10 - always), how often do “wind,” external circumstances or fears affect your faith? Explain your rating.

Can you think of a time when you felt fearful and cried out to Jesus the way Peter did, and He pulled you out of the water or met you in your time of need? If so, was there a key takeaway from that experience?

If you were warned that in the next few weeks, you’d face a situation that would challenge your faith, but you had an opportunity to tell yourself something when that happens, what encouragement would you give the next time you need it? What would you want to know or remember about God and who He is?

2. We see in Scripture that God has a track record of being trustworthy. Sometimes our trust problem is a memory problem because we easily forget God’s track record of faithfulness. Read this portion of His track record from Jeremiah 32:17-22 and write down anything that stands out to you about His faithfulness.

***Jeremiah 32:17-22 New International Version (NIV)***

***17****“Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.****18****You show love to thousands but bring the punishment for the parents’ sins into the laps of their children after them. Great and mighty God, whose name is the Lord Almighty,****19****great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind; you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve.****20****You performed signs and wonders in Egypt and have continued them to this day, in Israel and among all mankind, and have gained the renown that is still yours.****21****You brought your people Israel out of Egypt with signs and wonders, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with great terror.****22****You gave them this land you had sworn to give their ancestors, a land flowing with milk and honey.*

Oftentimes, God is more faithful than we realize; we just have to think about it. If you were to make a list like this of God’s track record of faithfulness in your own life or your family’s life, what would be on it?

Have any of the events or memories of God’s faithfulness on your list helped you more readily trust God in situations that came after them?

Are there any ways you can think of to create reminders of these times of God’s faithfulness so you don’t forget them?

**taking it home**

Is there any situation or area of your life in which you’d like to trust God more?

**prayer requests**