

YOUTH CONNECTION

21 FEBRUARY 2021

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

BY REV HERMAN KAN

Stepping Out of Our Comfort Zone

In Matthew 14:22-33, we read that after Jesus fed five thousand people with five loaves and two fish, the crowd was so astonished by the miracle that they were unwilling to leave. As evening approached, Jesus made His disciples get into a boat to go ahead of Him to the other side, while He went up on a mountainside to pray.

The disciples' boat was buffeted by waves because the wind was against it. More than ten hours later, shortly before dawn, the boat travelled only several kilometres. By then, the disciples were tired, frustrated and helpless. Jesus went out to them. When the disciples saw Him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, crying out in fear. After Jesus assured them, Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," Jesus said. So Peter left the boat, and walked on the water toward Jesus.

However, when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, called out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately, Jesus reached out and caught him. Then Jesus reproached him saying, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" By this, Jesus was actually highlighting the fact that Peter could have walked on water. There are 3 takeaways for us here.

1. Did Peter walk on water according to his own will or at Jesus' instruction? It was Jesus who agreed to Peter's request.

2. What was Peter's motive for walking on water? Was it to ascertain that the other party was Jesus? To show off to the other disciples that he was the special one and he was their leader? To prove his faith or his courage? Neither of these would have been Peter's motive. Jesus would not have acceded to Peter's request if he had a wrong motive. The only plausible answer was that Peter loved Jesus and wanted to get close to Jesus.

3. Did Peter go to where Jesus was? No, he did not, but he did walk a short distance, or perhaps a few steps.

The Chinese New Year symbolizes a new beginning, a fresh start, where the old is gone. In reality, however, the New Year does not necessarily usher in new things or changes. Nonetheless, we can be sure of two things - we can have a new life in Jesus, we must be responsible for our own attitude (2 Corinthians 4:16, 5:17).

If you love Jesus, desire to draw close to Him and encounter Him, I encourage you to step out of your comfort zone to serve Him, do things for Him, even making attempts that seem 'overboard' or crazy to

others. Instead of passively waiting for Jesus' call, do initiate action, but of course, also first seek Jesus' approval and godly wisdom, which He would grant you.

From Peter's experience, we know that when we fix our eyes on Jesus, we will have faith, but when we are attracted to the world, our faith will crumble quickly. Once we commit ourselves to Jesus, we will soon discover that whenever we fall and ask Jesus for help, He will come and pick us up. Through such encounters, our experience of, knowledge of, and our trust in Jesus will grow deeper. In this New Year, bless each of us to grow deeper and stronger in our Lord Jesus!

CONNECT WITH US

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A WARM WELCOME!

Youth Connection (YC) and Junior Youth Connection (JYC) are Kum Yan's community of students and young adults who love God and really enjoy doing life together!

We believe in Jesus, and are committed to know Him better and grow and mature in His likeness, and cheer each other on and journey together in community.

We'd love to invite you join us at Cell Group and Worship Services (online and in person). If you would like to find out more about Jesus or Church, or if you would like some prayer support or someone to talk to, feel free to reach out to any of the staff or leaders!

FAMILY NEWS

BLESSED CNY!

The YC Staff and Leaders Team wish all JYCers and YCers and their families a blessed Lunar New Year.

May God continue to watch over, provide for, inspire, empower and shape us in the season ahead, that we may glorify Him and fulfil the good purpose to which He has called us!

JYC & YC MARCH WORSHIP SERVICES

07.03.21

JYC & YC HOLY COMMUNION ON-SITE SERVICE • 12PM

To RSVP, scan QR Code or go to <http://bit.ly/YCMarServices>

JYCers may also RSVP via whatsapp with your Connect Group Leaders!

14.03.21

KY103 COMB'D SERVICE • 10AM

Thank God for His faithfulness to KY for 103 years! Let us celebrate this milestone both on-site and on Zoom! Limited seats will be assigned for each congregation to come on-site for the service. The registration link for Eventbrite will be launched next week.

20.03.21

JYC HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Listen out for more info coming soon!

21.03.21

YC ON-SITE SERVICE • 130PM

To RSVP, scan QR Code above or go to <http://bit.ly/YCMarServices>

28.03.21

JYC ONLINE SERVICE • 10AM

YC ONLINE SERVICE • 12PM

Connect with the staff and leaders if you need the Zoom Meeting Room details!



[bitly.YCMarServices](http://bit.ly/YCMarServices)

KUMYAN WATCH & PRAY Wednesdays, 8-930pm, Zoom

All of us are invited to join in this weekly time with God to worship and pray together, as the Spirit leads, to seek the welfare of the city (Jer 29:7)! Same Zoom Room as Sunday Services.

LOVESINGAPORE MORNING PRAYER Sundays, 7-8am, Zoom

KY anchors Morning Prayer every Sunday. ALL are invited! Contact Kerin for the Zoom Meeting ID!

*Prayer moves
the hand that
moves the
world.*

E.M. Bounds