

 Grace Bible Church

Ministry Investment Campaign



A SCARY SITUATION described in the Bible is when Peter walked on water. When he saw Jesus walking on water, Peter boldly said, “Master, if it’s really you, call me to come to you on the water.” Jesus said, “Come ahead.” Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, “Master, save me!”

Peter was terrified by his situation, but Jesus was there. He reached down and grabbed Peter's hand. Then he said, "Faint-heart, what got into you?" They climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. (Matthew 14:29-32 Message version)

In a split-second, Peter went from confident faith to outright panic. It happened the moment he looked down and saw the waves under his feet. In that instant, fear filled his heart and he began to sink. As long as he kept his eyes on Jesus, he was able to do the impossible - to walk on water, but he lost his focus, and down he went, until Jesus caught his hand.

Peter became distracted by what *might* happen, instead of the miracle that was actually happening. We do the same. The future is the great unknown.

The uncertainty of tomorrow makes us hesitant, especially in financial matters. How can we commit to a three-year plan to support our Ministry Investment Campaign when we don't know what our finances will be like in six months?

In reality, of course, we commit to long-term financial

obligations all the time. A multi-year phone plan, a car loan, a mortgage. Every single credit card transaction is a commitment to a future payment. So perhaps we're not as uncertain as it may seem.

Maybe it makes a difference if we feel like we have something to show for those payments - some sort of *thing* - a phone, a car, a house. But does that reveal something about our attitude towards God? Is there some little place in our heart that feels like we don't really get anything in return when we give to the things of God?

This is where faith becomes real. This is where we decide if our actions will match our words. This is the ground where faith can grow. But worry and fear can take root in that same ground, and choke our faith, making it ineffective. (See Luke 8:4-15)

Corrie ten Boom, a Christian imprisoned by the Nazis, once wrote "Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength."

Today is the day to be strong, to make the decision to trust in God's ability to provide in the future. Faith

grows when we decide to act on it. One way you can do that is by making a commitment to our Ministry Investment Campaign.

By the end of 2020, your growing faith will be making a difference in your own life every day, and your faithful giving will have made a profound impact on the ministry of Grace Bible Church, allowing us to express the good news of Jesus to more people more effectively.

Through her experience in a Nazi concentration camp, Corrie ten Boom learned a powerful lesson: “Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

With that in mind, please consider your role in our future, asking God to reveal his will for you.

Then step out in faith!

GROUNDING IN FAITH • GROWING TO SERVE

Grace Bible Church • Helendale CA

www.gbcsl.com

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