A HEART LIKE JESUS (May 21, 2017) Water Walking (John 6; Matthew 14:22-33) Small Group Study Notes

Getting to know you: Since we were honoring graduates this week, when you were in high school, did your graduating class pull a Senior prank? Were you involved? How did it go down?

OPEN: Jesus was devoted to spending time alone with the Father. Last week, you answered with where you go to find rest and relaxation. Does your "quiet time" consist of quiet? Or do you listen to music, read out loud, journal? How does that time look?

Read Matthew 14:22-33

- According to John 6, right after the feeding of the 5000+, the crowds wanted to force Jesus to be their king. Why wasn't this something that Jesus wanted?
- How long does Jesus wait before he goes to the disciples in the boat? What do you think about this delay?
- What is one thing you have seen God do that can only be explained by your faith in Him?

There are 2 Sections to this passage, one that teaches us about Christology (vs. 22-27) and the other about Discipleship (vs. 28-33).

1) Christology (22-27)

- a. Jesus says that He is God and shows that He is God. In what ways does He do this?
 - i. What does the sea represent and why is this important?
 - 1. Matthew 8:23-24
 - 2. Psalm 89:8-9
 - 3. Job 9:8
 - ii. What passage in the Old Testament parallels this miracle by Jesus?
 - 1. Exodus 16
 - iii. In Exodus 33, God passes by Moses in the cleft of the rock to reveal His glory. Look at Mark 6:48. What does it say was Jesus' intention in this verse? Why does that matter?
 - iv. The thing that the disciples fear (storm) is merely a set of steps for Jesus to come to them. In what circumstances has God revealed Himself in your life in the midst of fearfulness? How did you respond? How should you respond?

2) Discipleship

- a. What is the response of those in the boat to this revelation of who Jesus is?
- b. What is the only appropriate response that we should have to this revelation?
- c. What does it mean to be a faithful disciple? (Trust and Obey)
- d. Peter failed, but God pulled him back up. Does failure threaten you to stop following Jesus?

Close: "We don't have to walk on the water; we just have to worship the God who does." How does this motivate you for the week?