

Learning to Walk

Matthew 14: 22-32 is the account of Jesus walking on the water. The disciples were in a boat rowing across a lake, and here comes Jesus, walking across the water! Peter, impulsive as he always was, told the Lord that if it was truly Him, then He should invite him to come and walk on the water to Him. Jesus did and Peter jumped out of the boat and started walking on the water. However, as Peter looked around he saw the wind and waves and became afraid. He began to sink and immediately called out to the Lord to save Him. Jesus reached out, pulled him up and brought him back safely to the boat.



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In this lesson, you are going to learn about walking in the Spirit. And you might be thinking, what does Peter walking on the water have to do with walking in the Spirit? The answer is very simple. You see, when you walk in the Spirit there

Two Different Realities

are often two different laws or realities at work. There is a natural law at play- the wind and waves- and there is a spiritual or supernatural law- Jesus walking on the water and telling you to come and join Him! The key to walking in the Spirit, is to walk according to the supernatural law and not the natural one.

Now how can two laws exist at the same time? Well, some do in our world, don't they? Take for instance the law of gravity. We all live with the reality of gravity. And we know how strong it can be if we trip over something. Well, there is a law that exists which when put into effect, makes this powerful law of no effect. This is the law of aerodynamics.



So under normal conditions, a plane such as a Boeing 747 weighing 487 tons could never fly. Gravity would forbid it. However, when the plane operates within a different law, the law of aerodynamics, the plane does what is impossible on its own. It overcomes the law of gravity and flies.

Two Different Laws

Please look now at Romans 8:1-8. In verse two, we see that there are two spiritual laws. There is the law of the Spirit of life in Christ and the law of sin and death; one world, two laws. The law of sin basically says that sin will reign in your life. You yourself are powerless to overcome it. And how true that is! Who on their own can overcome sin?

However, there is a second law! The law of the Spirit of life in Christ. This law supersedes the first law so that when we walk according to its law, we walk free from the rule of the first law.

Notice this is a law. It is something that is set in place. You do not make it happen, nor can you. You only follow it. For instance, Peter did not learn how to walk on water. He just did it. Neither can you learn to walk free from sin. You just do it! You realize the Christ died for you, gave you a new nature, and now you walk accordingly. You cannot make it happen. You just do it.



Did this law fail Peter? No, it did not! However, instead of continuing to walk according to what Jesus said, he started to pay attention to things under the natural law. And that is what verse five says in Romans chapter 8. Don't focus on the old things! Don't put your attention and direction into the things of this world. Instead, keep your focus on what God says about you and your situation.

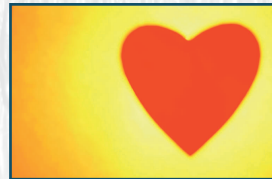


There are two laws! But the spiritual one is greater than the natural one. And as you walk by it, you will be walking in the Spirit!

Led by your Heart!

There is one last important thing to understand. Walking in the Spirit is not simply a matter of mind over matter. Yes, it is very important where you place your thoughts. But life with God does not take place in our thoughts. It takes place in our hearts!

Walking in the Spirit is not only keeping our focus on what Jesus said. It also means walking with Him, with a joyful thankfulness and confidence. It is rejoicing for what He has and is doing for you! It is an expecting hope, knowing that all things will work out for your good, no matter what your circumstances are!



There is so much more one could say about walking in the Spirit. Please download the study guide on the web site that accompanies this lesson. It will help supplement what you have learned here. God bless you as you continue to follow Him!

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The Role of the Holy Spirit Part Two: Led by the Spirit



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