

Introduction

When I managed a training company, we offered certification courses for field personnel and engineers in the oil and gas industry. There were two different certifying organizations, and depending on where someone worked in the world, one or the other was required or preferred. Both organizations had similar curriculum requirements that had to be covered. Any instructor that was going to teach these classes had to pass a rigorous exam and make 90 or better three different tests. Our certified instructors conducted the training, but the certifying organizations conducted the testing. They sent a test proctor to administer the tests, and then to grade the tests when the allotted times for the tests were up. The purpose of the tests was to see if the individuals had sufficient knowledge to safely do their respective jobs in the field.

In the first part of chapter six, the feeding of the multitudes, Jesus tested His disciples. He addressed his test question to Philip, but some of the other disciples joined in the conversation, so it was really for all the apostles. Jesus' question was where were they going to buy bread so that everyone could eat. (There were about 25,000 people there, so it was a large crowd to feed.) They were being tested in a number of different areas. Just as our students were tested in the various areas of the curriculum, Jesus tested His disciples in various areas. In the feeding of the five thousand, the disciples were tested in their understanding that Jesus is the Provider of all things, that He and the Father were one, and that nothing was impossible for Him. They were being tested in their faith.

(Jn 6:5–6) “Therefore Jesus, lifting up His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming to Him, said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?” {6} This He was saying to **test** him, for He Himself knew what He was intending to do.”

Our passage today is John 6:15-21, and it has another test for the disciples, but it begins with a test for Jesus. Just like our instructors were tested, Jesus is the Teacher, and He was thoroughly tested. In Hebrews we read that Jesus was tempted in all things, yet without sin. He scored perfectly on all the tests that He took. Our account begins with Jesus being tested with a temptation. After feeding the crowd of 25,000 and healing those who were sick, they wanted to force Jesus to be the king. Some say that the biggest temptation is the praise of others, or success. Instead of allowing this to happen, Jesus withdrew to the mountain by Himself. We will learn some principles from how Jesus dealt with the temptation.

(Heb 4:15) “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.”

The second test is for the disciples. Just as Jesus knew ahead of time how He was going to feed the multitudes, He knew ahead of time how He was going to test His disciples. This time, He was going to test their faith, and their understanding that nothing was impossible for Jesus. These tests were meant to teach and ultimately build up and strengthen the disciple. In James 1, God tells us to consider it all joy when we encounter various tests and trials, knowing that the testing of our faith produces endurance, and endurance is going to help us become perfect, complete, and mature. God wants us to be mature in our faith, and He uses these trials to test us, and to mature us in our faith. This is what Jesus was doing in our account today.

(Jas 1:2–4) “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, {3} knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. {4} And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

Testing on the Sea of Galilee

1. Testing of Jesus
2. Testing of the Disciples

(Jn 6:15–21) “So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone. {16} Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, {17} and after getting into a boat, they *started to* cross the sea to Capernaum. It had already become dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. {18} The sea *began* to be stirred up because a strong wind was blowing. {19} Then, when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened. {20} But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” {21} So they were willing to receive Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.”

1. Testing of Jesus (Jn 6:14-15)

Our passage begins with a test for Jesus. After miraculously feeding about 25,000 people by multiplying five loaves of barley and two fish, the crowd declared that Jesus was truly the Prophet who is to come into the world. The common view was that the Messiah was going to re-establish the kingdom of Israel, freeing them from Roman rule and occupation. Now that this crowd of 25,000 people had found the Messiah, they wanted to make Him king. “Jesus perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force and make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.”

(Jn 6:14–15) “Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.” {15} So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.”

In Proverbs 27:21, we read that silver is tested with a crucible and gold with a furnace, and we are tested by the praise accorded to us. Some say that the biggest tests are often after our successes in life. The people are wanting to force Jesus to be king. They want to elevate Him to the highest office in Israel. Jesus is being tested by the praise given to Him.

(Pr 27:21) “The crucible is for silver and the furnace for gold, and each *is tested* by the praise accorded him.”

In the introduction, we read in Hebrews 4:15, that Jesus is a high priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses because He was tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Jesus could have easily been made king, but that was not what He came here for. Jesus came as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world. He came to offer His life as a sacrifice for our sins, and to establish a new covenant.

(Heb 4:15) “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.”

Knowing the purpose for your life is important in avoiding the temptation of pride and many other temptations. A man may be very successful in his job, and he may be offered an opportunity for a much higher paying job, but it will entail him traveling and being gone from his wife and children. If he knows and understands that he is a father and is responsible for training

up his children in the ways of the Lord, he is much less apt to take that promotion. Knowing your purpose and your priorities will help when temptations like that. Jesus knew that He had come to serve, and not to be served, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

(Mk 10:45) “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

In Luke 4, Jesus was led into the wilderness for forty days and was tempted by the devil. One of those temptations was to have all the kingdoms of the world and its glory. Jesus told the devil, “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.’” Jesus was tempted by the devil to have earthly glory, but He only sought the Father’s glory, not the glory of men or earthly glory.

(Lk 4:5–8) “And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. {6} And the devil said to Him, ‘I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. {7} “Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours.” {8} Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.’”

When we are tempted with various temptations, we should look to Jesus for help in those times because He was tempted in all things and yet without sin. Whether it is the boastful pride of life, the lust of the flesh, or the lust of the eyes, Jesus was tempted in all things and without sin. He is our example to follow, and He is our help in time of need.

Notice how Jesus responded to this temptation. Jesus withdrew to the mountain by Himself. The mountain was just one of many places that Jesus liked to go and spend time in prayer. He also went to the wilderness by Himself to pray. He went to the Garden of Gethsemane and prayed. Jesus went to the mountain by Himself to pray. He spent time with the Father in His prayer times. In our times of temptation, we should also go to the Father in prayer. If possible, we need to retreat and get alone with God and ask God for His help.

In Psalm 121:1, we are told to lift up our eyes to the mountains, from where our help comes. It is not the mountains that help us; it is our time with the Lord. The next verse clearly states it, “My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” We go to the mountain and lift up our eyes and our voice to the Lord. We cry out to Him in our time of testing, and He promises to give us help.

(Ps 121:1–2) “I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall my help come? {2} My help *comes* from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”

In Hebrews 12:2, we are exhorted to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. Testing is to mature us in our faith, and the one who perfects us in our faith is Jesus. He can give us wisdom, strength, endurance, and help in our time of need so that we can run with endurance the race that is set before us.

(Heb 12:1–2) “Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, {2} fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

In 1 Corinthians 10:13, Paul wrote, “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” When we are tempted, we should go to God, who is faithful, and ask Him to show us and provide the way of escape so that we are able to endure those temptations. When we go to the Father, we should thank Him for His promises. We should thank Him for being faithful. We should thank Him that he watches over us and does not allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able. That promise should give us confidence that we can overcome the temptation. And we should ask Him to provide the way of escape, and to give us endurance.

(1 Co 10:13) “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.”

When Jesus was tempted by the devil, He responded each time with Scripture. In our times of testing and/or temptation, we need to have Scriptures in our heart. Very often the Holy Spirit will give us the way of escape through a Scripture. For example, many people today are struggling with pornography and sexual immorality. You may be in a situation where you are being tempted. The Holy Spirit may bring up 1 Corinthians 6:18, where Paul wrote for us to flee immorality. The way of escape is for us to flee, just as Joseph did from Potiphar’s wife.

(Ge 39:12) “She caught him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me!” And he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside.”

In Psalms 119:9-11, we find the way for young men and women to keep their way pure. It is hide God’s word in their heart, and in so doing, they will not sin against God. We need to hide God’s word in our heart, and in times of testing, or temptations, they will be invaluable.

(Ps 119:9–11) “How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Your word. {10} With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments. {11} Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.”

2. Testing of the Disciples (Jn 6:16-21)

Next, John tells us that Jesus’ disciples went down to the sea, and after getting into a boat, they started to cross the sea to Capernaum. John wrote this account after the other gospels, and knew what was in those accounts. Therefore, he did not feel a need to duplicate what they had written; he filled in some other details that they did not include. I want to turn to a cross reference because there is more to them going down to the sea and getting into a boat.

(Jn 6:16-17) “Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, {17} and after getting into a boat, they started to cross the sea to Capernaum. It had already become dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.”

This gives us some context. After the multitudes had been fed, Jesus MADE the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowd away. It appears as if they wanted to wait for Him, and He had to make them go on ahead of Him. After making them get into the boat and go, He left for the mountain to pray. We learn several things from this. First, Jesus already knew how He was going to get to the other side of the Sea of Galilee; He

knew He was going to walk across the sea. Just as He knew how He was going to feed the multitudes when He asked Philip about where they could buy food for all those people, He also knew of how He was going to test the disciples, and how He was going to cross the Sea.

(Mk 6:45–46) “Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of *Him* to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the crowd away. {46} After bidding them farewell, He left for the mountain to pray.”

Second, Jesus knew that there was going to be a storm that evening. Jesus went up to the mountain to pray, not just about the temptation to become king, but to watch His disciples try to cross the sea in the storm. This was Jesus’ watch post, and it is at night. It is the fourth watch of the night, which is between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m., and it is dark, and there are no electric lights from nearby cities lighting up the sky. There may be a little light from the stars or moon, but it is pretty dark. John records that the sea was stirred because of a strong wind was blowing.

(Jn 6:18–19a) “The sea *began* to be stirred up because a strong wind was blowing. {19} Then, when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened.”

Mark records that Jesus saw them straining at the oars for the wind was against them. The disciples are not fifty feet away straining at the oars; they are three or four miles away. Scientifically, a person can see someone in the daytime that is 2.9 miles away, but they will not see any details, like facial expressions, bodily strain, and whether people in a boat were straining at the oars, only that there was someone there. Jesus is at His watch post, and is seeing them in the Spirit. This is as much of a supernatural phenomenon as Jesus walking on the water, but it does not get the same attention as the walking on the water.

(Mk 6:47–48) “When it was evening, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land. {48} Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them.”

I believe that Jesus went to His watch so that He could watch over the apostles. He knew He was going to bring the winds and the storm. He had some purposes in mind for this test, and He is watching over them in the test. He is like the test proctors that administered the tests to our students. They watch over the students while they take their tests. Jesus is watching over His disciples, for the wind was contrary, and Matthew wrote that they were being battered by the waves. Many of the disciples are fishermen, but this is no ordinary storm, and it is a tough test that they are taking.

(Mt 14:24) “But the boat was already a long distance from the land, battered by the waves; for the wind was contrary.”

After the disciples had fought the rough seas and winds, and had rowed three or four miles, Jesus comes walking on the sea, and drew near to the boat. Mark tells us that Jesus came about the fourth watch, walking on the sea, and He intended to pass by them. The Greek word is *thelo* (Strong’s G2309), which means will or desire. Jesus’ desire, intent, and will was to pass by them, and not get into the boat. He was just observing them straining at the oars and battling this storm. But when they saw Jesus, they were frightened.

(Jn 6:19) “Then, when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened.”

Mark tells us why they were frightened; they supposed that it was a ghost, and they cried out. They saw Jesus and they were terrified. I don’t think they were expecting to see Jesus walking to them on the water, so I can understand why they thought they were seeing a ghost.

(Mk 6:48-50) “Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them. {49} But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out; {50} for they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, “Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid.”

Jesus does several things when He they cried out. First, He put them at ease by telling them that it was Him. He said, “It is I.” In Mark’s account, he records that “immediately He spoke with them...” Jesus was testing them, no trying to terrify them.

(Jn 6:20-21) “But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” {21} So they were willing to receive Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.”

Second, He told them not to be afraid. They should not be afraid of a ghost, or of Him, and they should not be afraid of the storm. God does not want us to live our lives in fear. I believe that the reason that Jesus got into the boat was to calm them down. John records that when He told them not to be afraid, they were willing to receive Him into the boat. I believe that is an understatement. I believe they were really happy about Him being in the boat with them.

When Joshua took over the reins from Moses, God commanded him to be strong and courageous, and not to tremble or be dismayed. Why? Because God was with him, and was going to be with him wherever he went.

(Jos 1:9) “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

In Isaiah 41:10, God tell us not to fear or anxiously look about us. Why? Because God is with us. He will strengthen us and help us. He will uphold us with His righteous right hand. When we know that God is with us, we should have confidence and peace.

(Is 41:10) “Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

When Paul was in the storm in Acts 27, they had not seen the sun or stars for many days. They had jettisoned the cargo and ship tackle. Luke records that all hope of them being saved was gradually abandoned. Yet Paul tells the men to keep up their courage. Where does Paul get this courage and hope in the midst of this huge storm? He had courage because an angel of God came to him in the night and told him, “Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.” God was watching over Paul in the midst of the storm, and He sent an angel to encourage Paul.

(Ac 27:20–25) “Since neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small storm was assailing *us*, from then on all hope of our being saved was gradually abandoned. {21} When they had gone a long time without food, then Paul stood up in their midst and said, “Men, you ought to have followed my advice and not to have set sail from Crete and incurred this damage and loss. {22} “*Yet* now I urge you to keep up your courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but *only* of the ship. {23} “For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me, {24} saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.’ {25} “Therefore, keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told.”

In Psalms 23, God tells us that even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we are not to fear evil because God is with us. God promises that He will be with us in the storms of life, whether they are strong winds in the middle of the sea, a storm of walking through the shadow of death, or even a mental storm, when we think we are seeing a ghost coming towards us. God will get in the boat with us to calm our fears, just as He did with the disciples.

(Ps 23:4) “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.”

In Matthew’s account, he wrote about Peter asking Jesus to command him to come to Him on the water, to which Jesus said, “Come.” Peter got out of the boat and began walking on water and came to Jesus. But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and began to sink. Jesus said to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” Jesus reached out His hand and took hold of Peter. He was not going to let Peter sink in the strong winds and high waves. When we become frightened, and are attempting to walk by faith, God is not going to let us sink either; He will take hold of us.

(Mt 14:28–31) “Peter said to Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” {29} And He said, “Come!” And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus. {30} But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” {31} Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”

In the storms and tests in life, we need to remember that the purpose of a test is to build our faith, and to mature us; it is not meant to destroy us. This test was not so that Peter would drown; it was to build his faith. When Peter started doubting, Jesus took him by the hand and brought him to Himself. Jesus will do that with us also. He is watching over us in the tests, and He is with us in the storms. Both of these truths should comfort us and give us confidence to endure.

Notice what happened when both Peter and Jesus got into the boat. The wind stopped and they began to worship Jesus, saying, “You are certainly God’s Son.” They already knew that Jesus was God’s Son, but now more than ever they believed it; their faith had grown, which was the purpose of the storm. When we come out of a storm, we should be stronger in our faith, and our hearts should be full of worship of God.

John records something that the other gospel accounts do not mention. He wrote that after they received Jesus into the boat, the boat was immediately at the land to which they were going. We saw in Mark’s account that they were in the middle of the sea, and now they are immediately transported to the other side. This was as big of a miracle as anything else in the account.

When the test proctors administered tests to our students, there was a time limit on each test. When the time ran out, the proctor would collect all the tests, and then grade them. When Peter and Jesus got into the boat, the time limit on that particular test was over. The wind stopped blowing; the sea became still, and they were immediately at the other side of the Sea of Galilee. All of those things were just part of the test, and the test was over. Therefore, Jesus stilled the sea, calmed the winds, and He supernaturally transported them, boat and all, to their destination.

(Jn 6:21) “So they were willing to receive Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.”

I want to take a minute to look at what Matthew and Mark say about the arrival of Jesus. We will look at Matthew’s account, but Mark’s account is almost identical. First, both say that Jesus and His disciples came to land at Gennesaret. John recorded that they were going to Capernaum and arrived at Capernaum. I believe the reconciling of this difference is understanding the geography. There is a region that is three miles long and one mile wide that is known as the Plain of Gennesaret. It is also called the Land of Gennesaret. The historian, Josephus, praised the plain of Gennesaret for its beauty and productivity. It was known as a very fertile plain. There is no historical evidence of there being a city called Gennesaret. Capernaum is a city in the northern part of this region called Gennesaret. Therefore, there is no contradiction in the two accounts, they are complimentary of each other.

(Mt 14:34) “When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.”

Capernaum was Jesus’ new home town. He had relocated there from Nazareth when John was incarcerated by Herod. (See Matthew 4:12-14.) He had performed a number of miracles there, including the healing of the nobleman’s son, who was at the point of death. Therefore, when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word into all the surrounding district and brought to Jesus all who were sick. They implored Jesus that these sick could just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched it were cured. This did not all happen in one day. This launched a season of ministry in Capernaum, where people were coming from various places to be healed. It was not only the faith of the apostles that was strengthened; it was the faith of all those around.

(Mt 14:35-36) “And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent *word* into all that surrounding district and brought to Him all who were sick; {36} and they implored Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched *it* were cured.”

(Mt 4:12–14) “Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee; {13} and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. {14} *This was* to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet:”

Conclusion and Applications

Jesus is coming back for a pure and spotless bride. In the meantime, He is helping us grow and mature in our faith. Sometimes God uses tests in our life to mature us. In our account today, Jesus was tested Himself. After feeding the crowds, they wanted to force Him to be king. Jesus withdrew to the mountain to pray. I believe it was His watch station for the test that He was going to give His disciple.

Then, Jesus tested the disciples again. He had just tested them with the feeding of the multitudes, and now He is testing them with a storm on the Sea of Galilee. As the test Administrator, Jesus was monitoring them, and He saw them straining at the oars. He came walking to them on the water, and they were frightened, thinking He was a ghost. He put them at ease, and after getting into the boat, the wind stopped, the sea calmed down, and they found themselves in Capernaum, their destination.

Our first application comes from Jesus' example. When we are tempted or tested, we need to go to the Father in prayer. He promises to give us a way of escape, so we need to be ask Him for the way of escape. We need to ask Him for endurance, wisdom, and the grace to handle the test. God does not want us anxious; He wants us to be full of peace. He wants us to know that He is with us, and will never forsake us. He wants to help us in our time of testing. We need to lift our eyes up to the mountains, and ask God for His help. We need to fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith.

Our second application is to cling to God's promises. We need to remind ourselves of God's promises, particularly the ones that deal with whatever test we are going through. He promises that He will never leave or forsake us. He promises to be with us, and to uphold us with His righteous right hand. He promises to walk with through the storms of life. Nothing is impossible or too difficult for Him. We need to cling to His promises. We should draw near to Him in the storms and cling to His promises. Our faith is tested in the storms of life, and when we cling to God's promises, our faith grows stronger.

In Romans 4:20, Abraham did not waver in unbelief with respect to the promise of God, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform. That is a great verse to memorize and hide in your heart.

(Ro 4:20–21) “yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, {21} and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.”

Closing Prayer

Father God, thank You for giving us John's account of the disciples crossing the Red Sea and being tested in their faith. Jesus, thank You for Your example of how You dealt with temptation. Thank You for being a faithful High Priest, and an example to us. Help us to go to You in our time of need or temptation. Help us to keep our eyes on You, and to cling to Your promises. Thank You for promising that You will never leave or forsake us, and that You will not allow us to be tempted beyond our ability. Father, help us to be like Abraham, and grow strong in our faith, being fully assured that You will do what You have promised. Thank You for all Your promises that You have given us. Help us to cling to Your promises. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Discussion Questions

- What is a test that you have gone through, or are going through? How did you respond? What are the things that you did to get through the test? What was the result of that test? Did you grow in your faith?
- Why does God test our faith?

- Why is Jesus able to come to the aid of those who are being tempted?
- What are some ways that we can fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith?
- Why do you think that Jesus was intending to pass by the disciples in the boat?
- Why did Jesus get in the boat with them? Why is that significant for us?
- What are some ways that we can know that God is with us in the trials, temptations, and storms in life? How does that help you not to be anxious, and to have peace in the storm?

Testing on the Sea of Galilee (Jn 6:15-25)

Introduction (Jn 6:5–6, 15-21, He 4:15, Jas 1:2-4)

1. **Testing of Jesus** (Jn 6:14-15, Pr 27:21, Heb 4:15, Mk 10:45, Lk 4:5-8, Ps 121:1-2, He 12:1-2, 1 Co 10:13, Ge 39:12, Ps 119:9-11)

2. **Testing of the Disciples** (Jn 6:16-21, Mk 6:45–50, Mt 14:24, Jos 1:9, Is 41:10, Ac 27:20-25, Ps 23:4, Mt 14:28-31, 34-36, 4:12-14)

Conclusion and Applications (Ro 4:20-21)

- 1.
- 2.