

Lent

devotions

READ:

Mark 6:45-56 ([click to open link](#))

REFLECT:

I remember watching a television show when I was a child. It think it was called, "That's Incredible." This specific episode was about ghosts and old houses. Unfortunately, I grew up in a one-hundred year old house. And that night I heard every creak and saw every light flicker. I was officially afraid of ghosts. I finally fell asleep and had bad dreams about ghosts. This phobia didn't go away over night. But eventually, over-time, it did.

I deal with new ghosts these days. Failure is one of them. Rejection is another. Things I fear. I hear the creaks of the cynics. I see the flickers of denial from the doubters. Failure and rejection get in the way of good dreams coming true. I'm overcoming these fears. Taking the journey daily but not having reached the destination.

Jesus had just fed 5,000 people. It was time to leave so the disciples got in a boat. Jesus walked out on the windy sea to meet them. It's not everyday you see somebody walking on water, so the disciples were afraid because they thought Jesus was a ghost.

Then Jesus said the words that God said more often than any other words, "Do not fear. Take courage. I am with you." Jesus got into the boat with them and their fears were gone.

RESPOND:

- Make a list of the things you fear. Be as comprehensive as possible.
- Next to what you fear, write the phrase: Do not fear. Take courage. God is with me.
- Does knowing God is with you change anything? If so, what does it change?
- What is the next step you can take, with God, in overcoming one of your fears?