

Don't Miss This!

2025-03-23 • PASTOR MATT ROSE

**John 6:16-27**

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Everybody knows the story of Jesus walking on water. But John tells it with almost none of the drama Matthew and Mark include: no Peter stepping out, no wind report, and the boat may have been near shore the whole time. Pastor Matt asked why that bothered him, and found the point in it: God usually works in ways that look ordinary. The crowd chased Jesus down and asked a scheduling question about a miracle. If we only look for the billboard-sized sign, we miss the quiet ones already in front of us.

To get started

- When was the last time you asked God for a clear sign? What were you hoping for?

Looking back at the message

Most people know this story from Matthew. The point of the message is what John leaves out.

- 1 John tells the walking-on-water story with almost none of the drama the other Gospels include. Why do we want our miracles dramatic?
- 2 The crowd asked Jesus a scheduling question, when did you get here, about a supernatural event. Pastor Matt said we still bring logistics questions to spiritual moments. When have you caught yourself doing that?
- 3 Pastor Matt described people waiting for a billboard from God because that is how it happened for someone else. Whose dramatic story have you been waiting to get a copy of? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read John 6:16-27. Verse 21 is the hinge and is easy to read past.

- 4 Read John 6:16-21. What does verse 21 say happened once they were willing to take Jesus into the boat?
- 5 The crowd tracks Jesus down and asks when he arrived. According to verse 26, what are they actually after?
- 6 Jesus says they came for the loaves, not for the signs. What is the difference between those two motives?
- 7 Read Jeremiah 29:13. What condition comes attached to finding God? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

The peace that surpasses understanding is the practical test he offered. Let people name where they have felt it.

- 8 Pastor Matt said one way you know you are connecting with God is a peace that does not match your circumstances. When have you felt that?
- 9 In the story, the storm calms once the disciples take Jesus into the boat. What part of your life are you keeping him out of?
- 10 What ordinary thing from the past month might have been God working, and you brushed past it?
- 11 Honestly: are you seeking Jesus for what he gives, or for who he is? OPTIONAL

The group together

People notice God's work in each other's lives before they notice it in their own.

- 12 Where have you seen God working in someone else in this group recently?
- 13 Why do we take dramatic answers more seriously than quiet ones?
- 14 How could this group help each other notice the ordinary signs?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What would change this week if you stopped waiting for a billboard and started looking where God said he could be found?

You might pray about

- For eyes to see what God is already doing
- For peace in the areas that are currently chaotic
- For people who are seeking the benefits rather than the person