The Most Important Step

If You Say So - Part 3

November 22, 2026

"[1]The Lord said to Abram: Go from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. [2]I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:1-2 (CSB)

God called Abram in the midst of his comfort.

Abram trusted God with his first step.

"[23]After dismissing the crowds, He went up on the mountain by himself to pray. Well into the night, He was there alone. [24]Meanwhile, the boat was already some distance from land, battered by the waves, because the wind was against them. [25]Jesus came toward them walking on the sea very early in the morning. [26]When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost!' they said, and they cried out in fear. [27]Immediately Jesus spoke to them. 'Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.' [28]'Lord, if it's you,' Peter answered Him, 'command me to come to you on the water.' [29]He said, 'Come.' And climbing out of the boat, Peter started walking on the water and came toward Jesus. [30]But when he saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, 'Lord, save me!'" Matthew 14:23-30 (CSB)

God called Peter in the midst of the chaos.

Peter trusted God with what could have been his last step.

Wherever we are, God calls us to trust Him with our next step.

Warning! The next step in following Jesus will always take us further into an understanding of our own weakness.

"*The new situation must be created, in which it is possible to believe in Jesus as God incarnate; that is the impossible situation in which everything is staked solely on the word of Jesus. Peter had to leave the ship and risk his life on the sea, in order to learn both his own weakness and the almighty power of his Lord. If Peter had not taken the risk, he would never have learnt the meaning of faith. Before he can believe, the utterly impossible and ethically irresponsible situation on the waves of the sea must be displayed. The road to faith passes through obedience to the call of Jesus. Unless a definite step is demanded, the call vanishes into thin air, and if men imagine that they can follow Jesus without taking this step, they are deluding themselves like fanatics.*" - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

It is in the depths of our weakness that we understand the heights of His strength.

"[31]Immediately Jesus reached out His hand, caught hold of him, and said to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' [32]When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. [33]Then those in the boat worshiped Him and said, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'" Matthew 14:31-33 (CSB)

Discomfort is not a potential side-effect of being a Christian.
It is the reality of following Christ.

Do you want to understand the fullness of the love of God?
Wherever you are, trust Him with the next step.