

## The Word Today Encouragement

John 6:20

Pastor Doug Schroeder

This is Pastor Doug Schroeder of The Word Today and let's find some encouragement in the words of Jesus in John, chapter 6, verse 20. "It is I, don't be afraid."

We all face fear at times. We all feel that visceral uncertainty and this anxiety that comes when we are afraid and we don't know when it will come. Soemtimes we can seem very bold in the face of circumstances, and other times we are terrified.

The Apostles were in their boat, on the lake, the Sea of Galilee, it was dark and there was a strong wind and they were scared because they knew the potential for death. And then, here comes Jesus, walking on the water and then on top of it, they think they see a ghost. It was like the ultimate bad, bad circumstances. Jesus calls out, "It is I, don't be afraid."

I would like for you to lock that phrase in your mind. You have the Lord Jesus Christ who has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." This is a promise made to people who are Christians. I encourage you, if you want freedom from the crippling effect of fear, if you do not want to be terrified, no matter what the problem, know that you can have a Savior, Jesus Christ. He walks alongside you, he is there to comfort you and reassure you.

Jesus says, "It is I, do not be afraid", and so we do not ultimately have to be afraid of anything because we know the Savior, we know the salvation he has brought us. Don't look at the circumstances and be terrified, know that you have Jesus Christ along with you and he says, "Do not be afraid."