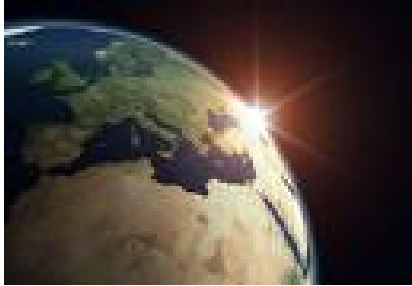


**January 17, 2010**  
**Mark 6:47-56**

*The Good News: A Sermon Series through the Gospel of Mark*  
**The Good News of a Savior**  
**Who Both Startles Us and Calms Our Fears**

There's Good News for the world . . .



*but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified.*

*Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."*

Mark 6:49-50

John talked about how we routinely sit in the same place in the sanctuary as a demonstration of our tendency toward making ourselves comfortable.

What are some other routines related to church that we tend to hold on to for the sake of our own comfort.

**READ** Mark 6:47-56

What about this passage is a mystery to you?

John suggested that the closer the disciples get to Jesus the more complicated their relationship with him becomes. In what ways have you experienced this in your relationship with Jesus?

Discuss the correlation between knowing Jesus as friend and our being comfortable with him. Why is it important to know him as more than a friend?

What is good about experiencing discomfort as a disciple of Jesus? Do you ever choose to intentionally make yourself uncomfortable because you are a disciple of Jesus? How? Why?

In what places do you feel the most discomfort trying to live Kingdom values – at work, with family, at school, in your neighborhood, in social organizations, in public places, in a place of service, etc.?

What helps you function with Kingdom values in the places that don't share these values?

What situations are you in that you need to hear Jesus, your friend, say "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.?"

**PRAY TOGETHER!**

"Jesus, how do we function with Kingdom values in places that don't acknowledge you as Lord?"

"Jesus, open yourself up to us at \_\_\_\_\_ so I can acknowledge your presence there and follow your lead."

Pray for courage for one another. Ask Jesus to breathe his Spirit on one another.