

XIX Sunday in Ordinary Time: Why Did You Doubt?

“Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’ Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, ‘O you of little faith, why did you doubt?’” (Mt 14: 31-33)

In life, it is normal to go through moments of doubt, moments in which it seems that God is very far from us, if He exists at all. These are the decisive moments, the moments when our faith is tested. We would like to never feel loneliness and for the Lord to always respond to us quickly and solve the problems that overwhelm us.

Instead, sickness, disappointment and failure make us feel, in all its crudeness, the weight of the cross that Christ carried on His shoulders and that also led Him to ask the Father why He had abandoned Him.

In order to get out of this situation, we just have to remember the gifts we received in the past, the proof that God has given us on so many occasions about His existence and His solicitous love for us. From there, we have no choice but to place ourselves into His hands and, asking Him to help us, do as Peter did: throw ourselves into the lake and do the impossible, that is, walk on the water with God's help. And if we feel that we are sinking, that we lack faith, let's not hesitate to ask for help as St. Peter did, even if our Lord scolds us for our lack of faith. Walking on water, a symbol of understanding God's plans, is not possible for us. Just as our nature prevents us from doing what it allows the fish to do, our intelligence is limited to understanding God's plans. But to have faith is possible. To believe without understanding, to accept the mystery, to assume that God is greater than we are is within our grasp, but only with His grace.

Purpose: When you have problems and it seems that God is not helping you, remember His help in the past. Be patient and do not forget that “God writes straight with crooked lines.”