

## "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



### TRACKS ON THE WATER

While the cabin cruiser is still in the picture, the track it left in the water as it passed could still be seen minutes after it had passed. It was something I had never seen before and would have missed this day if I had not done two things. One, stopped my exercise walk and noticed the cruiser and two broadened my focus around the boat and saw the result of its passage through the water.

In God's Word, the Bible, three times tells of the time Jesus walked on the water of the Sea of Galilee during a storm. Each account has a slight twist. In one it tells how the Disciple Peter, at the call of Jesus got out of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus, until he took his focus off Jesus and started to sink. Jesus reached down and lifted him up, they got in the boat and the storm stopped. **(Matthew 14:22-33)** **Mark 6:45-52** tells how when Jesus got in the boat the storm stopped, while the account in **John 6:16-21** when Jesus got in the boat, it was immediately at the shore where they were heading.

Jesus' tracks across the water show us some amazing things about this man who is the Son of the God of love we can read about in the Bible. His power was greater than the power of the storm; He showed love rather than ridicule by reaching down to a floundering Peter rather than lecturing him, and practical care by saving the disciples the back-breaking job of rowing or pulling on sail ropes to their destination.

Consider this, do the tracks Jesus made across the waters of Lake Galilee over two thousand years ago mean anything today and can they still be seen?  
I believe they do.

Jesus wants to walk with us through the storms of life. When we feel the waves of fear, inadequacy, loneliness, rejection, lack of financial security, death, and no time to have a fulfilling life – whatever your personal fear, remember Peter in the storm. The footprints of Jesus on the water went right up to him, he reached down and lifted Peter with no lectures just a statement of fact and a question.

While Jesus is always to be the centre of our focus, I wonder if sometimes we miss his impact on the broader canvas of life, personal and community. How often might we miss recognising the result of Jesus's footsteps walking and bringing his love and forgiveness into a situation? I could have kept a narrow focus on the boat and missed the uniqueness of the track through the water. Focus on Jesus and his love, but don't miss what he might be doing in love with himself and others to cause life changes.

Kevin.