

Let Us Experience God

The disciples of Jesus begin to experience Jesus. Matthew leads us to think that, from the beginning, Peter had a close relationship with Jesus. Peter dares to command Jesus to come to Him walking on the water. This seems like pretentiousness on the part of Peter, but it serves to show that we need to familiarize ourselves with the presence of God. For this reason, we have chosen this title as our idea: Let us experience God.

We would do well to look closely at this passage today, particularly because we live in a time when the world is not ready to live in the presence of God. For that reason, it is full of fears, specters, and turmoil.

The boat that the disciples were taking to the other shore while Jesus dismissed the people can be seen as a figure of the community and the other shore as a country, another world. And the contrary wind can be seen as the resistance of the disciples to distance themselves from their insecurities, to leave the place where they were successful.

To walk on the water has to be understood as a divine prerogative. Peter wants to enjoy the divine condition as a favor or miracle from Jesus, not as the fruit of his own

In order to experience God, let us try these three actions:

1-Let us go up the mountain or into the boat.

The mountain and boat signify being in search of God. This involves changing my ways of thinking about God: *God is not as I imagine Him or want Him to be.*

Just as Elijah took shelter on the mountain, as we heard in the first reading, our new mountain can be The Word, The Eucharist, and The Community. From that mountain, we can see the winds, earthquakes, and fire pass by. That is, we can see all that afflicts the human person and our own fears, specters, and storms. But we will be sure that, in the end, God will come as a soft breeze.

Let us allow God to instill His presence in us, to provoke new discoveries from the experience of being in His presence: intimacy, simplicity, gentle company, the Spirit, and life.

2-Let us go further.

St Paul suffers because his own people, the Jewish people, do not dare to go further. They do not accept Jesus and His mission. But no one can force another person to experience God in the same way that he himself has experienced Him.

for miracles. This means that if we want to penetrate the mystery of Christ, as Peter did when he wanted to walk on the water, we must be willing to maintain a permanent relationship with Jesus who will carry us to another new place.

3-Let us prostrate ourselves.

When Matthew writes that those *who were in the boat bowed down before Him*, he is saying that the disciples had progressed in their faith. A moment later they were frightened; *they cried out in terror*, but Jesus calmed them by telling them, *“Do not be afraid, for I am with you and will protect you.”* There is a change of attitude when they hear *“it is I.”* They realize that they are in the presence of God, the God of their ancestors who is now manifested in Jesus. They then prostrate themselves.

If we want to experience God, we must learn to prostrate ourselves. In no way are we diminished; on the contrary, it allows us to enjoy His presence as a soft breeze. If we allow God to be God over us, we cover ourselves with His grace. We prostrate ourselves out of reverence for Him. We receive the best of contemplations. We will be going further in our experience of God.