

Part 3- Extraordinaire [Slide 1]

Introduction: Their entire world consisted of just one island. They measured wealth in seashells. They never heard an engine, struck a match, experienced a cold day, or been told about gravity. They believed the entire world was only what they saw and experienced...until 1930 when two white men arrived on the island of New Guinea. Michael Leahy and Michael Dwyer, two Australians prospecting for gold, began to explore the island. The natives were not initially hospitable as these two men introduced them to a world beyond their own little island world. The islanders had never seen skin so white or bodies so clothed. Seeing soap bubbles for the first time as the prospectors bathed in the river, the natives thought the bubbles were a skin disease. The natives thought the lanterns the men had were containers with pieces of the moon in them. When Michael Dwyer took out his dentures, the natives ran screaming into the jungle. Could we also be accused of a similar response? Do we also suffer from “tiny islanditis”? Do we think the whole of reality is what we see and experience? How do we respond when a foreigner visits and points out that we live in just a tiny dot of reality? That’s what Jesus did. Jesus is an invader, a foreigner, an alien, an outsider. He spoke in language we are not used to and lived by principles never known to us and which we find difficult to embrace. Jesus spoke of a “kingdom.” In The Story we discover Jesus declaring, “The time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.”

Word Origin and History for *extraordinaire* -adj.

1940, from French *extraordinaire*, literally "extraordinary, unusual, out of the ordinary," but used colloquially as a superlative; see *extraordinary*.

The 3 years of Jesus’ ministry: [Slide 2]

Year 1- **inauguration** - Year 2- **fascination** - Year 3- **opposition**

1. Extraordinary teachings [Slide 3]

a. Kingdom of God

- i. The “kingdom of God” was the theme of Jesus’ teaching and ministry.
In three of the Gospels—Matthew, Mark and Luke—the kingdom takes center stage, being mentioned over 60 times.
- ii. The kingdom of God is a great treasure—like a huge, expensive pearl. Matthew 13:44-46
- iii. The kingdom of God operates with energies we do not understand or control. Mark 4:26-29

iv. The kingdom of God is a worry-free, anxiety-free realm.
Matthew 6:25-27; Matthew 6:33.

- b. Human stories called parables (prodigal son, lost coin, good samaritan, prayer, etc)
- c. Modeled what he taught (fasted and prayed regularly, he spoke the truth, spent time with sinners, etc.)

2. Extraordinary works [Slide 4]

- a. Healed the sick
- b. Fed the hungry
- c. Raised dead people
- d. Walked on water

4 Important Examples of Jesus' Teachings:

Mark 4:37-41 [Slide 5]

37 A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 38 Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

[Slide 6] 39 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

40 He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

41 They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

Jesus slept, the storm threatens their lives, Jesus calmly remained asleep.

[Slide 7] **Lesson #1- Storms shouldn't scare you when Jesus is on your boat.**

[Slide 8] What is your boat right now?

Examples:

Mikee's hospitalization

Hypertension

The older you become, the more boat you will be in with a storm.

When you do, rehearse the promises of God and His goodness in the past.

Psalm 23- though I walk into the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil. Thy rod and thy staff shall comfort me.

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Matthew 14:22-31 [Slide 9]

27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

[Slide 10] 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

29 "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

[Slide 11] **Lesson #2- You can only walk on water if you get out of the boat**

Don't play safe

Don't stay in bitterness

Don't get bogged down by what you cannot change

There are things God wants to bless you but He cannot do so until you get out of the boat.

Decide and make the hard decision- downsize, go back to school, some of you may need to change your habits, some of you need to take action, some of you may need to make a stand. Some may need to end a relationship with someone who is not a God-pleasing.

David Frazee story

[Slide 12] What kind of boat do you need to get out of?

Unforgiveness? Indecision? Faithlessness? Discouragement?

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[Slide 13] Matthew 14: 13-21- Feeding of the 5000- 18 "Bring them here to me," he said.

[Slide 14] **Lesson #3- If you give Jesus whatever little thing you have, He will multiply it.**

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Matthew 14:13, 23

[Slide 15] After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone,

[Slide 16] **Lesson #4- We need to come apart (in prayer), so we will not come apart**