

SERMON SERIES:
SPEAKER: Ryan Lingbloom
DATE: May 31, 2020



Key Line

Sometimes things in our surroundings distract us, causing us to lose our focus on Jesus.

Introduction

- What are the most important things in your life, the things you want to focus on?
- What are some things that distract you from what you know is important in life?

Seek the Word

Read Psalm 121:1-2.

- Where does the writer of the Psalm focus his eyes? (*On the hills where God is coming to help him*)

Read Hebrews 12:1-2.

- Where does Hebrews say we should focus our eyes? (*On Jesus*)
- How do we finish the race we are running in life? (*By fixing our eyes on the finish line, on Jesus.*)

Read Matthew 14:22-32.

- During the storm, Jesus walked out on the water to meet his disciples in the boat. What did Peter say and do when he saw Jesus walking on water? (*He jumped out of the boat to walk on the water and meet Jesus.*)
- What happened when he lost his focus on Jesus and started noticing the waves and the storm? (*He started to sink.*)
- What did Jesus do when Peter sank? (*He reached down and pulled him out of the water.*)
- What happens when we try to defeat sin in our lives? (*We fail. We focus on conquering sin, and we cannot do it by ourselves.*)
- Instead of focusing on our sin and how to defeat it, where should our focus be? (*on Jesus*)
- What will happen if we intend to do something but do nothing to work toward that goal? (*Nothing. We will make no progress toward our goal.*) Instead of just wanting something,

how can we work toward our goal of a closer relationship with God? (*We must build a habit.*)

By, With, and For--Ryan suggested using this rubric:

- **By** what power are you acting? If we only work toward our goals with our own power, we will fail. How can you use God's power to focus on what he wants us to focus on?
- **With** whom are you doing this? Who are the people in your life who support you in your relationship with God?
- **For** the glory of God. How are you glorifying God in your actions and all that you do?

Talk About It

- How can you focus more on God this week? Give at least one concrete way that you will implement these principles in your life this week.
- How can we help one another and support one another in our relationships with God this week?