



- 5) Why might Jesus have chosen to show the disciples that He could walk on water?
- 6) Reread Matthew 14:33.
- a) Considering the context of the verse, try to define the word “worship.”
  - b) Since the complete record of the Scriptures is God’s self-revelation, we have the opportunity to know more about Jesus today than His disciples knew at the time of these miraculous events. Why do you think we are nevertheless slow, forgetful, or negligent in worshipping the Lord?

Read Matthew 16:5-12 and John 6:25-71. Jesus trained His disciples by challenging their thinking and beliefs.

- 7) Compare Jesus’ negative comments to His disciples in Matthew 16:6 and 12 concerning yeast with His use of yeast as a positive illustration in Matthew 13:33. How is the effect (power) of yeast a suitable analogy for the power of both good and evil?
- 8) According to John’s gospel, Jesus’ feeding of 5000 and walking on water was immediately followed by His “Bread of Life” discourse (John 6:25-71). The response of the crowd and of Jesus’ disciples shows that the discourse challenged their thinking and beliefs. Summarize the five questions the crowd asked Jesus in John 6:25-58 and Jesus’ answer to each.
- 9) The crowd asked Jesus about the works God requires (6:28). Jesus’ answer in 6:29 also explains the mystery of how one “feeds on” Him (6:57, see also 6:40, 47). Find Jesus’ answer in these verses and give a *specific example* of how you must perform your most important work by “feeding on” Jesus today?

Read Matthew 16:13-28. Jesus trained His disciples by challenging their thinking and beliefs.

**10)** Consider Matthew 16:17 with Matthew 11:25, 13:11, John 6:65, and 1 Corinthians 2:10, 14. How does a person ascertain spiritual truth?

**11)** Read John 1:41 and 6:14-15 with Matthew 16:15-16.

- a)** In what sense is Peter's confession (Matthew 16:16) the foundation upon which Christ's church rests?
- b)** According to John 6:15, what expectation did the Jews have of the Messiah (see also Isaiah 9:7)?
- c)** According to Matthew 16:21 and John 18:36, how did their expectation line up with God's plan for Jesus' first advent?
- d)** Compare Matthew 16:21 with 16:27. In what way was Jesus challenging the thinking and beliefs of His disciples (and Jewish religious thought) concerning the Messiah?

**12)** How has the Spirit of Christ been challenging *your* thinking about who He is?

Read Matthew 17. Jesus trained His disciples by challenging their thinking and beliefs.

**13)** How did the Transfiguration, described in Matthew 17:1-8, fulfill the prediction Jesus made in Matthew 16:28?

**14)** How did the Transfiguration validate what Jesus taught the disciples in Matthew 16:21-27?

**15)** Reread John 6:27b with Matthew 17:5.

- a)** From where does Christ's authority come?
- b)** Considering Christ's authority and desire to transform *your* thinking as His disciple, what practical steps could you take to improve your ability to "listen to Him" (Matthew 17:5)?