

*August 9, 2020*

*Questions for Reflection*

After Jesus caught Peter in the water, was Jesus' question, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" a reproach? When we are facing a great difficulty, do we doubt God's power? Do we doubt ourselves? Can you recall other biblical stories, or a story from your own life, when God reached out to rescue or to overcome doubt and fear with the gift of increased faith?

*Household Prayer: Morning*

Holy God,  
the new day begins with such promise.  
Help me to enter into this day  
with joy and confidence  
in your power and goodness.  
Whatever challenge I may face,  
help me to trust in your presence,  
remembering that you are stronger  
than any difficulty or threat.  
If you will surround me  
in the embrace and affection  
of steadfast love and faithfulness,  
of righteousness and peace,  
then I will be lifted up  
and strengthened to follow you.  
In Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

*Household Prayer: Evening*

Gracious God,  
favor me with the sheer silence of your presence  
at the end of this day.  
Quiet any voices of fear and doubt  
that would trouble me,  
toss and turn me.  
Grant me,  
and anyone who enters the night hours  
with anxiety or pain,  
your perfect peace.  
Favor your children  
with calm and rest,  
with healing and renewal,  
as we sleep and dream  
in your arms of mercy.  
In your Son's dear name, I pray. Amen.