



Theme:  
Courage -  
Stand and Fight

# Devotional 17 THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP "SAVING CRUSOE"

## 1 Start Up

Divide your groups into teams and have everyone take out their wallet, purse, or bag. Call out items as in a scavenger hunt, and with each call the team members must scour their wallets, pockets, or purses to see if they have the item you are asking for. If they do, they must run it up to one of the judges sitting at a table. The first one with the correct item gets ten points. The first team to collect 100 points is the winner. Here are some examples of items you can call:

*A \$10 bill, a receipt from a grocery store, a picture of someone who is younger than six years old, a driver's license with "3" in the number, a nickel dated earlier than 1990, a key chain with the color red on it, cologne or perfume, a gift certificate, a school ID or business card, a paper clip, or a dollar bill with a "2" in the serial number.*

## 2 Get Focused

When the game is over, play the video clip from the movie, "The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep," and begin a discussion with your group about fear. (If they haven't seen the entire film, make them aware of Angus' fear of water.) Ask the students to list any phobias they might have, such as a fear of heights, the water, etc.

You might divide them into smaller groups and ask each group to come up with a verse from the Bible that speaks of fear in any sense. After five minutes or so, bring everyone back together to discuss each group's selected verse. Are there different types of fear mentioned? If so, how do they differ? How does the Bible seem to view fear of earthly things? In the movie clip, how does Angus confront his fear?

### John 6:16-21 (The Message//Remix)

*"In the evening his disciples went down to the sea, got in the boat, and headed back across the water to Capernaum. It had grown quite dark and Jesus had not yet returned. A huge wind blew up, churning the sea. They were maybe three or four miles out when they saw Jesus walking on the sea, quite near the boat. They were scared senseless, but he reassured them, 'It's me. It's all right. Don't be afraid.' So they took him on board. In no time they reached land — the exact spot they were headed to."*

- 1) The disciples had a destination, but when Jesus had not returned, fear entered the picture. In what types of situations does fear enter our lives today?
- 2) A storm blew in and the disciples' fear grew. What sorts of behavior on our part allow fear to take over?
- 3) Jesus came in a manner that initiated fear in the disciples, but His words calmed them. In what ways can we allow the words of the Father to calm our own fears?

## 3 Wind Down

Ask your students what sorts of fears they are dealing with in their lives right now. Are there any types of fear that are healthy? In certain situations, is there a way we can "nip fear in the bud" before it takes over? Why does God allow us to feel fear? Why does He not want us to give into it? What might we choose to do when the feelings of fear don't go away? Does it necessarily mean we've done something wrong or that we haven't prayed enough? Why might God choose to not take the feelings of fear away immediately?

To close your meeting, encourage your students to be open with one another about the various types of fear that enter their lives as the weeks progress. Pray with them that God would give them wisdom to know the root of the fear and the correct course of action to take. Assure them that God will use the battle against fear to strengthen their character and their faith in Him.