

THREE-PART SERMON SERIES

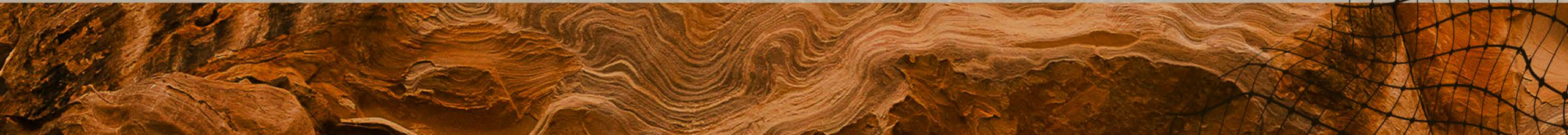
A NOT SO PERFECT

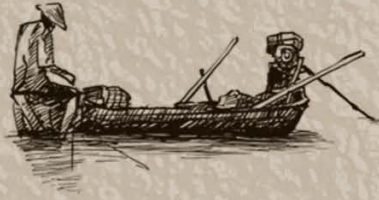
ROCK





Being resilient means having the ability to bounce back from difficult experiences such as setbacks, failures, stressful situations or hurtful events without being permanently damaged/broken by them





PART ONE

FORGING ON WHEN FAITH FLUCTUATES



Who is Peter?



- Original name: Simon
- Jesus gave him the name, "Peter" – meaning "stone" or "rock"
- Profession: fisherman in Galilee whose family owns a boat and employs hired hands
- One of the first few called by Jesus to be His disciple; left his nets and followed Him



Who is Peter?



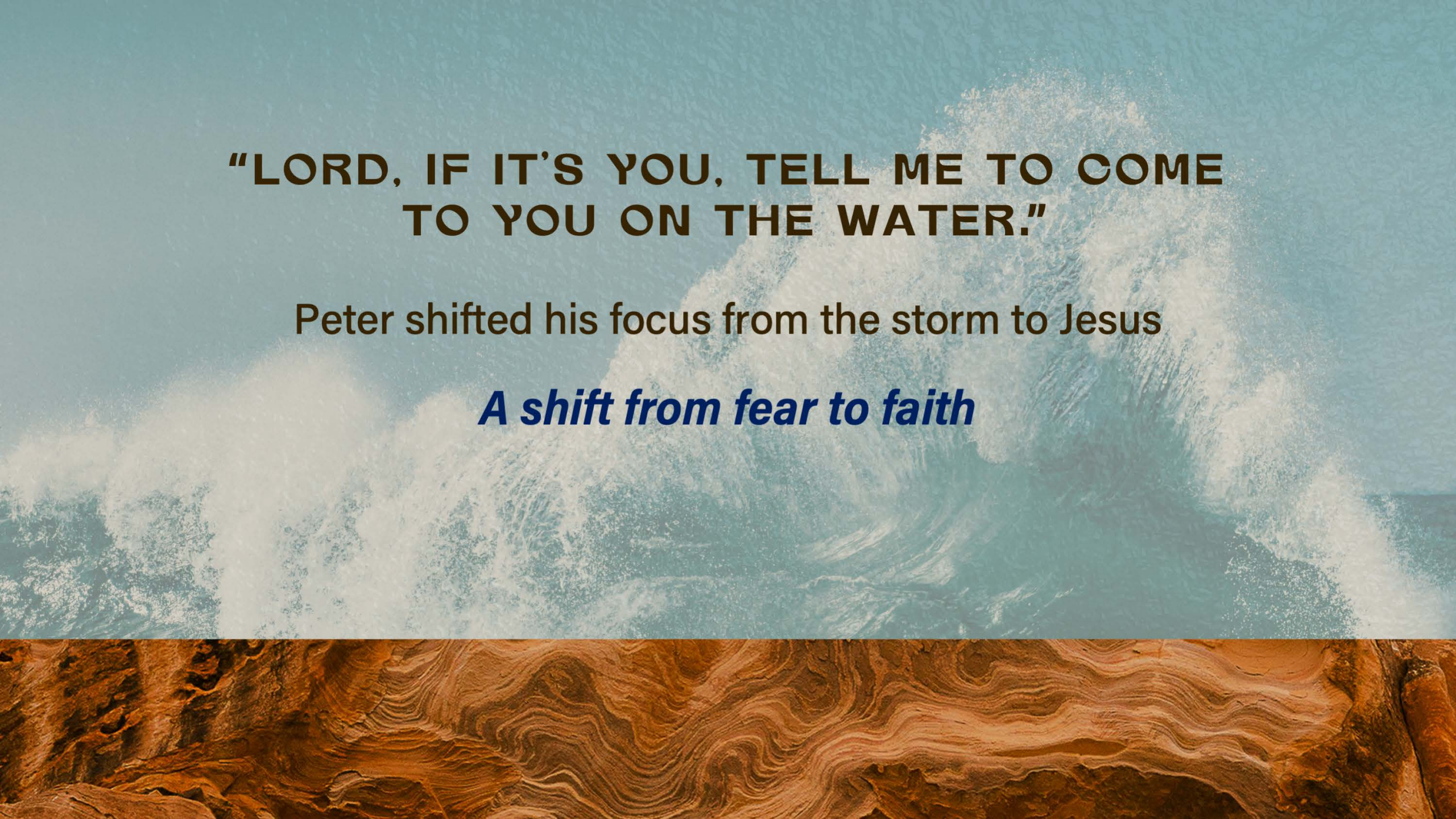
- Named first on the lists of the apostles
- Member of Jesus' "inner circle"
- Apostle and leader of the Jerusalem church (after Jesus' ascension)
- At Pentecost: interpreted the outpouring of the Spirit with prophecy from Joel 2 and 3000 got saved through his preaching
- Member of the Jerusalem Council
- His ministry demonstrated signs, wonders, miracles, judgement, healing





SET OUR FOCUS **ON GOD**

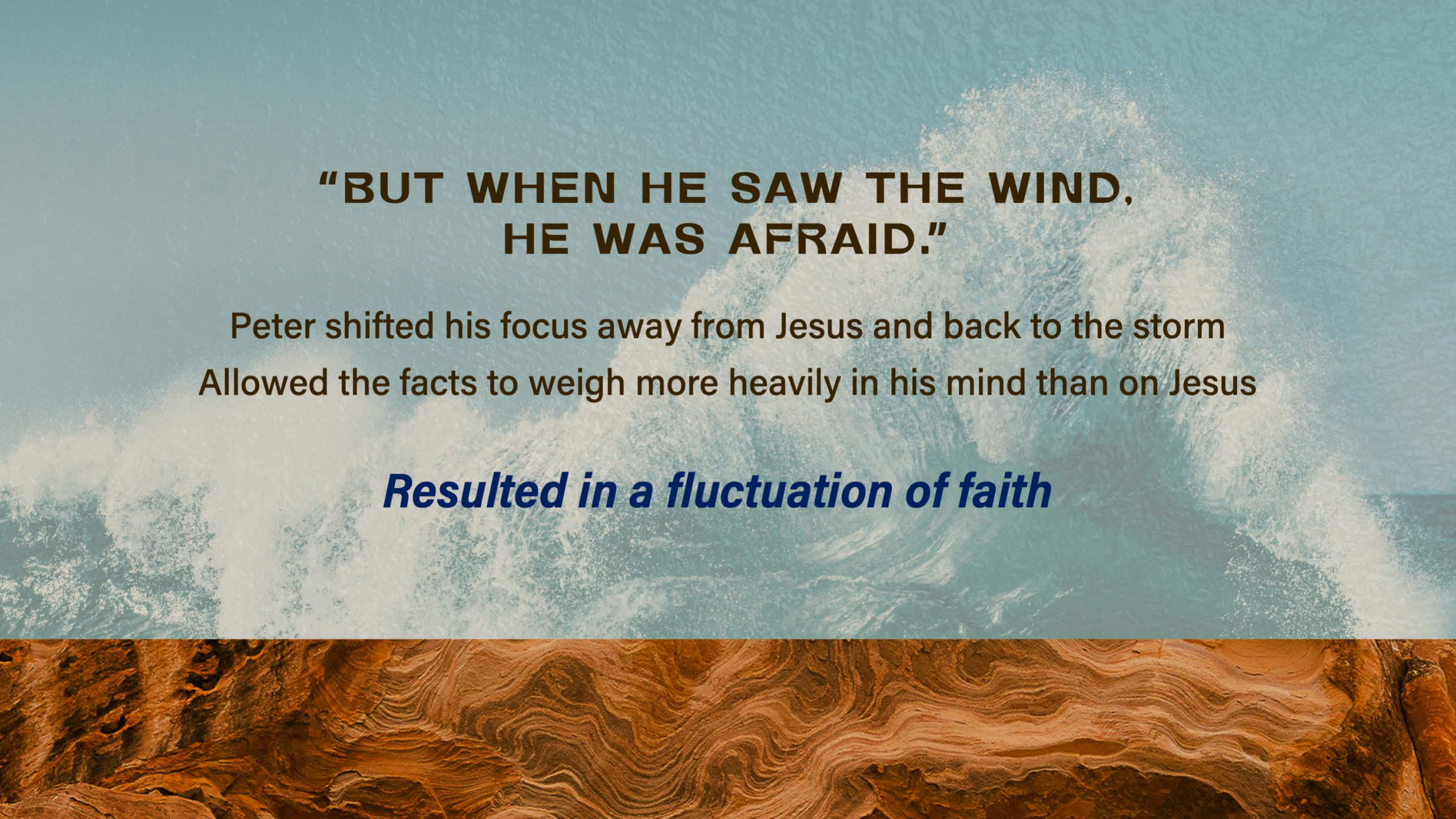
MATTHEW 14:22-31



**"LORD, IF IT'S YOU, TELL ME TO COME
TO YOU ON THE WATER."**

Peter shifted his focus from the storm to Jesus

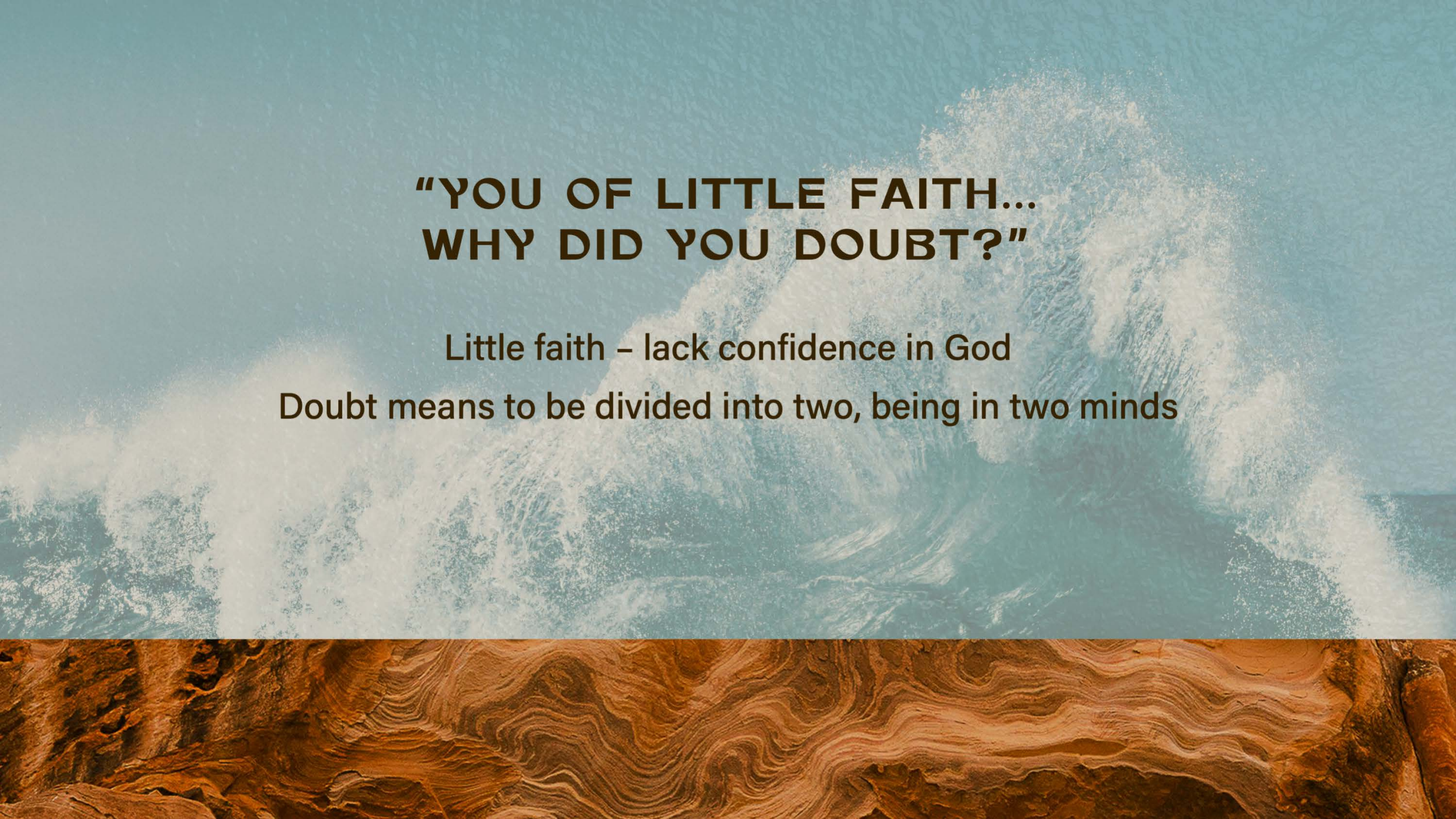
A shift from fear to faith



**"BUT WHEN HE SAW THE WIND,
HE WAS AFRAID."**

Peter shifted his focus away from Jesus and back to the storm
Allowed the facts to weigh more heavily in his mind than on Jesus

Resulted in a fluctuation of faith

The background of the slide is a photograph of a large, powerful wave crashing against a rocky shore. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the spray of white foam is visible as the wave breaks. The rocks in the foreground are dark and jagged, with some water splashing over them. The overall scene is dramatic and powerful.

"YOU OF LITTLE FAITH... WHY DID YOU DOUBT?"

Little faith – lack confidence in God

Doubt means to be divided into two, being in two minds



*God demonstrates His compassion
and power in our lives despite the
fluctuation of our faith*

***CHOOSE TO
FOLLOW
GOD'S PLANS***

MATTHEW 16:13-18, 16:21-24

**"YOU ARE THE MESSIAH,
THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD."**

Peter had a *right revelation* from God
that Jesus is the Messiah

**"NEVER, LORD!" HE SAID. "THIS
SHALL NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU!"**

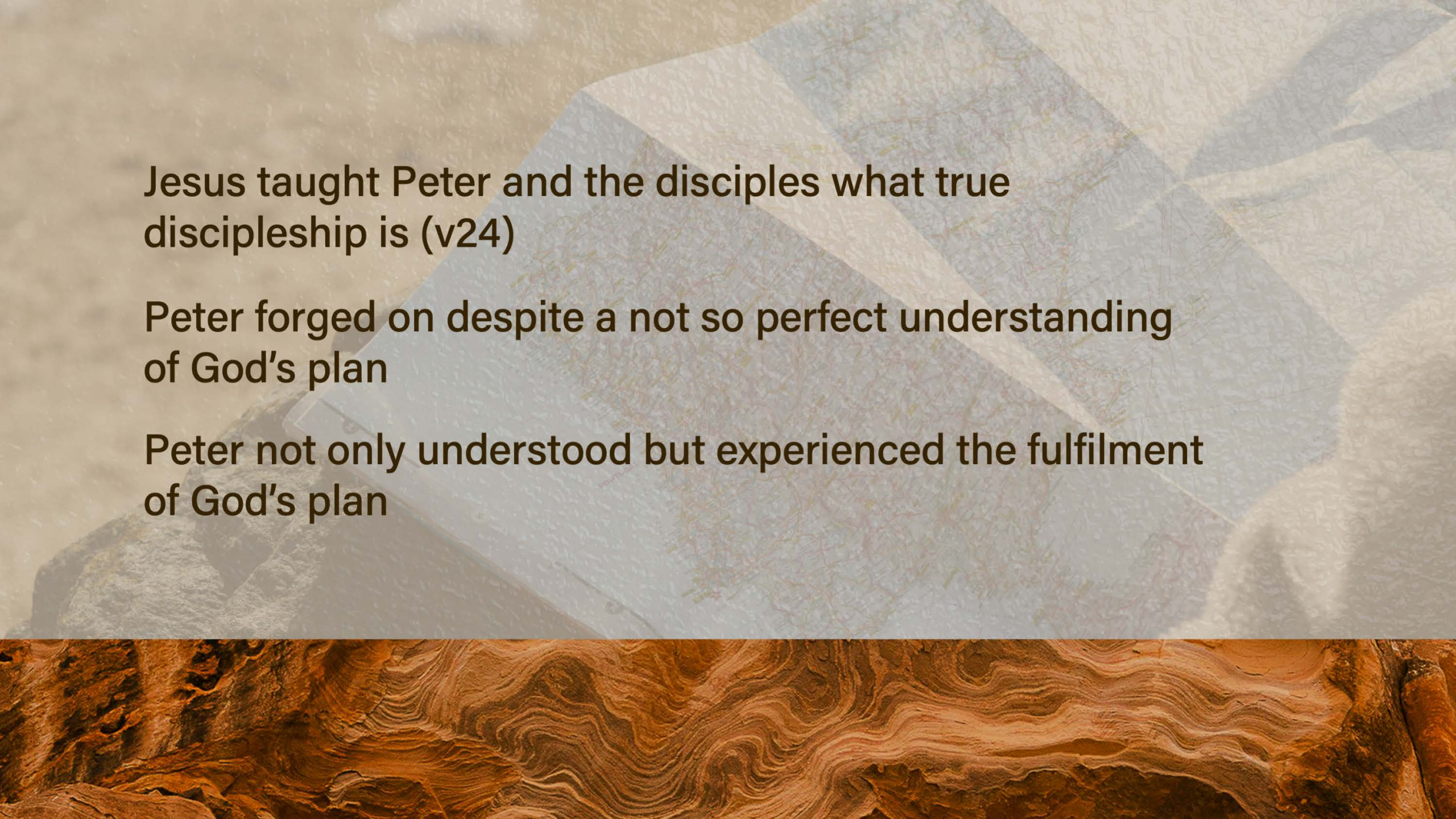
But he had a *wrong interpretation* of Jesus'
messianic mission

PETER'S NOT SO PERFECT UNDERSTANDING LED TO A FLUCTUATION OF FAITH

From *receiving a revelation* to *rejecting God's plan*

From *being a rock* to *becoming a stumbling block*

From *being praised* to *being rebuked by Jesus*



Jesus taught Peter and the disciples what true discipleship is (v24)

Peter forged on despite a not so perfect understanding of God's plan

Peter not only understood but experienced the fulfilment of God's plan



***God remains faithful to His plan
even when we do not understand***