

# the ultimate journey

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Article:  
**Tired of Trying to Stay Afloat?  
Abandon Ship!**

Each of us started on a voyage through life the day we were born. Our life is like a boat or a ship setting sail for a promised port. God created each of us with a free choice allowing us to choose where our ship will sail. Unfortunately, while we might choose to chart a specific course, we often don't know how to sail there. Some times the raging storms of life blow us in the opposite direction and we find ourselves drifting aimlessly.

The reality is every one of our ships is sinking. Each one of us inherited a boat with a hole in it. Whether you feel like you set sail in a great ocean liner with powerful engines, or in an old broken down row boat with only one oar, your boat is sinking. Sin has left a hole in each of us. The first part of Romans 5:18 says, "For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners."

What a rotten way to start a trip! Bright eyed, full of hope, full of dreams, but with a hole in our boat. And if that weren't bad enough, then we starting traversing through the waters and people run their boats into us! Before we know it, we are running our boat into other boats or dangerous hidden obstacles in the water, and we get even more holes in our boat! Whether it is because of the things that have happened to us, or because of the wrong choices we have made, we often find ourselves floating in troubled waters far from where we thought we would be.

What is a person to do? How are we supposed to keep our boat afloat when we are taking on water? The lie is: It's our job to keep our boat afloat! The last part of Romans 5:18 says, "... so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous." When the water is coming in and the ship is going down, you only have two options. Stay on board and go down with the ship, or ABANDON SHIP!

Mathew 10:29 says, "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." It's not about finding a way to fix your boat, but it's about abandoning your boat and getting onto HIS boat. While each of us is sinking, Jesus is calling for us to abandon ship and come over to His ship and ride with Him.

Even though Jesus is calling us to abandon ship, some of us are so proud of how good their boat looks (especially when compared to everyone else's), that they can't see that their boat is really sinking. Some of us are so focused on the idea of fixing our boat that we can't imagine any other options-such as moving to another boat. Others try to keep their boat afloat by tying it along side of another boat. We don't realize that the other person's boat is also sinking, and what looks so seaworthy right now only going to pull us under later.

There are others of us who have spent a life-time in co-dependent relationships, feeling the responsibility to keep the boats of others afloat. In reality we have only been giving our co-sailors false hope that somehow their boat is capable of floating with just the right kind of 'popping up.' Thus, the co-sailors never really recognize that their boat is sinking, so they never abandon ship and find real help.