Lesson 115: Jesus Walks on Water Matthew 14:22-33

Youtube Link for Teachers: https://youtu.be/Zu2sQ0qu6rU

Children's Bible Story Video: https://youtu.be/1yV8NMazeHk

Worship Theme: God cares even when we doubt.

Memory Verse: Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." (Matthew 14:33)

Songs (Youtube links):

- 1. With Christ in the Vessel https://youtu.be/2CzlW4_ueg0
- 2. It's a Great Day https://youtu.be/Z91SULEHfho
- 3. When the Storm Comes https://youtu.be/II5A7jKQb2o

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: "Bring the Children to See Jesus Christ"

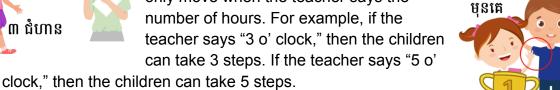
How to play:



1. Ask for a volunteer to play Jesus (older child is recommended) and have Jesus stand at the end of the room.

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2. The rest of the children will stand at the other end of the class, and they can only move when the teacher says the number of hours. For example, if the teacher says "3 o' clock," then the children can take 3 steps. If the teacher says "5 o'



- 3. The object of the game is to get close enough to Jesus and touch him.
- 4. The first person to touch Jesus will win the game. But play the game until everyone touches Jesus.
- 5. After the game, explain to the children that Jesus loves us even when we doubt.

Introduction:

What does it mean to doubt? It means to be unsure of something. Maybe you doubt if your friend will keep their promise. Or maybe you doubt if you can keep your promise to your parents. It means you are not sure about it. Today, we will learn about a man who was able to do something amazing when he did not doubt but believe!

Bible Story:

One day, Jesus told his disciples to get on a boat and go to the other side of Galilee while he stayed back and prayed. When the disciples were on the boat, there was a storm! The disciples were scared. Jesus prayed for a long time because the bible says he went to the disciples "shortly before dawn."

But the disciples were in the middle of the sea, so how did Jesus go to them? The bible says he walked on the water to get to them. The disciples were scared when they saw Jesus standing on water because they thought he was a ghost! When Jesus told them that it was he, Peter said if he really is Jesus, help him walk on water too.

So, Jesus told Peter to come and Peter walked on water too! Isn't this amazing? When Peter was focused on Jesus, he was able to walk on water. But when he saw the storm and the waves, he began to doubt. He was not sure if he could continue to walk. That's when he started to drown in the water. Jesus quickly rescued him and asked, "Why did you doubt?" Peter doubted when he took his eyes off of Jesus and focused on the world.



We can believe in Jesus and doubt things about him at the same time. Even adults doubt sometimes. You don't need to feel guilty when you wonder about God or about what he can do. You just need to honestly tell God about your doubts and fears. God understands.

Our doubts will come and go, but they don't change who God is. We are like dust that blow around here and there. But God is like a rock, strong and sure. You can't change him, and you can't blow him away. When Peter doubted, Jesus reached out and rescued him. He cares and stands firm even when we doubt, so we can ultimately stand strong.

Questions to discuss:

- 1. What was Jesus doing when this disciples left on a boat? (Jesus was praying)
- 2. How did Jesus get to the disciples? (He walked on water)
- 3. Who asked to walk on water, too? (Peter)
- 4. Why did he start to drown after he started to walk on water? (He lost his focus on Jesus and doubted when he saw wind and waves)
- 5. What should you do when you have doubts about God? (Tell him honestly because God understands and still loves you even when you doubt)

Game: Game "Riding a Boat"



- 1. Have all the children stand up in the middle of the room.
- 2. The children have to group up to the number the teacher says. For example, when the teacher say "A boat with 2 people," children need to find a partner (2 people) and stand together. If teacher say "A boat with 7," they need to gather 7 people in a group.
- 3. If children cannot find a group to match the number of people that the teacher says, they will lose the game.
- 4. Play this game until 2 students are left. They are the winners.
- 5. After the game, explain to the students that God is in the boat that we are on. God will lead us and help us to cross the river.





Memory Verse:

Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." (Matthew 14:33)

Craft: Jesus Walks on Water

Materials Needed: Print craft sheet, crayons, scissors, popsicle stick, glue



- 1. Color the boat and Jesus.
- 2. Cut out the rectangle with the boat and cut the solid line next to the boat
- 3. Cut out Jesus and glue a popsicle stick to the back of Jesus.
- 4. Put Jesus through the solid line next to the boat that was cut and now Jesus can walk on the water to the boat!

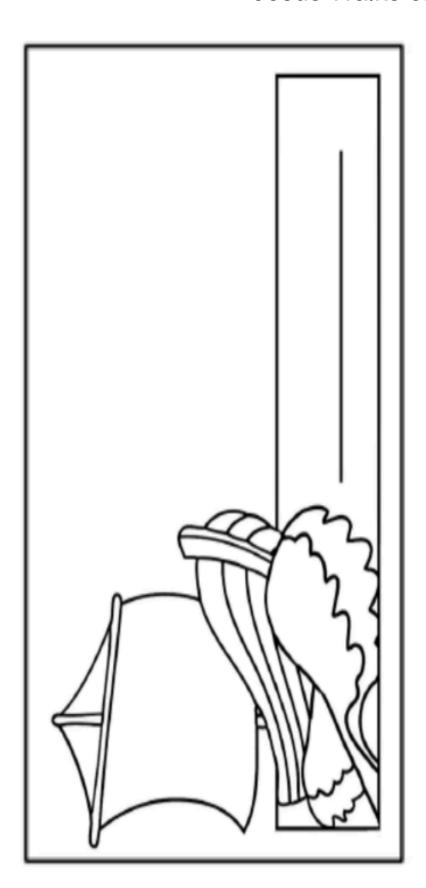
Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

When you trust in Jesus, you can "walk on water." Jesus gives you the ability to accomplish impossible things that give him the attention he deserves. Reread Matthew 14:22- 33. What overwhelming situations do you tend to look at fearfully? How can trusting Jesus cause you to "walk" over that storm in your life? Jesus will respond to you with the same love and support he gave Peter. He wants to grow trust in all his children.

Jesus Walks on Water







Instruction:

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