

Lesson 63: Jesus Calms a Storm

[Mark 4:35-41](#)

Youtube Link for Teachers: <https://youtu.be/6nRtG9oVhyk>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/rM3ojTlicZY>

Worship Theme: Turn to Jesus when we're afraid.

Memory Verse: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. With Christ on the Boat <https://youtu.be/2eORYd5n2I8>
2. With Christ in the Vessel https://youtu.be/2CzIW4_ueg0
3. When the Storm Comes <https://youtu.be/II5A7jKQb2o>

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: The Boat Saves Lives

Material Needed: Paper

1. Place papers on the floor in a circle. The paper is like a boat.
2. Play the music, and ask the children to dance around the paper. When the music stops, ask the children to step on the paper. If the children do not step on the paper, they lose the game.
3. Take away 1 paper. Playing the game again. (Take away 1 paper for each round of game).
4. When there is only 1 paper, the children who step on the paper win the game.



Introduction:

Raise your hand if you've ever been afraid. (Pause) All of us have been afraid at some time. The Bible tells us that God wants to protect us and keep us safe even when we're scared or worried. Today, we are going to learn about what the disciples did when they were scared and how Jesus rescued them.

As the teacher tells you this story, one group will help by making the sounds of the sea as a giant storm comes through.

The other group will pretend to be the frightened disciples. Show each group its role, and allow groups to practice.



- Group 1 (the sea)—Children will sit and rock from side to side, chanting, "Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh."
- Group 2 (the disciples)—Children will put their hands on their cheeks and cry out, "Oh no! We're all going to die!"
- Select 1 child to represent Jesus and have this child lie down during the bible story until Group 2 wakes him up.

When the teacher gives you the signal by pointing to your group, you will act out your part of the story. Listen and watch for your part and be as loud as you can.

Bible Story:

One night after a long day of preaching to the people, Jesus decided to get into a fishing boat with his disciples and go across a sea to the other side. Leaving the crowd behind, Jesus and his friends got into the boat. **(Point to Group 1.)**

When they had sailed to the middle of the sea, a storm began to kick up waves. **(Point to Group 1.)**

The boat rocked back and forth and up and down over the waves. The storm grew stronger and more furious. **(Point to Group 1.)**

Jesus had fallen asleep almost as soon as the boat left the shore. Even though the sea was tossing the boat around, he was still asleep. But his disciples were beginning to get really afraid. **(Point to Group 2.)**

They tried lowering the sail and throwing out the anchor, but nothing worked. The boat was close to sinking. **(Point to Group 2.)**

Finally, they couldn't stand it any longer. Jesus was still sound asleep, so they woke him up. They said, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" **(Point to Group 1 and Group 2.)**

(Group 2 shout: "Jesus wake up!" / Point to Jesus to stand up)

With that, Jesus stood up in the boat and shouted out, "Quiet! Be still!" The storm died down, the waves grew calm, and the boat Jesus was on was safe. (Group 1 and Group 2 should stay quiet)

Jesus looked at his disciples, who were now soaking wet and shaking with fear. He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Didn't you still have no faith?" (Mark 4:40)

The disciples were no longer afraid, but they were amazed. They turned to each other and asked, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" (Mark 4:41)

Jesus is the Son of God, creator of the universe. We can count on him to calm the storms in our lives. When a fear or worry seems to take hold of us, we can call out to Jesus in prayer and know that he hears us just as he heard the disciples' cries for help.

Questions to discuss:

1. What do you think the disciples were most afraid of? (Storm; the boat sinking; dying)
2. Who did the disciples seek when they were scared? (Jesus)
3. How did Jesus calm the storm? (He commanded to the storm)
4. What fears do you have? (Let the children answer)
5. Can Jesus calm your fears? How do you think he does that? (Let the children answer)

Game: Cross the River

Materials needed: Paper

1. Divide the children into groups of 5 to 6 children.
2. Have each group line up at one end of the classroom.
3. Give 2 sheets of paper for each group.
4. Each group has to move to the other end of the room and return by only stepping on the 2 sheets of paper.
5. The group that finishes the race first wins the game.

**Memory Verse:**

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Craft: "Jesus Calms the Storm"

Materials Needed: Paper plates, wooden stick, color paper, paint or crayons, glue, scissors



1. Begin by cutting the paper plate in half and shaping some 'waves' into one edge. (We will use the other half to staple to the backside, so don't throw it away.) ***You can replace the paper plates with paper cups or water bottles.*
2. Paint or color the paper plate blue and staple the paper plates together leaving plenty of space at the bottom of the plate for the boat to be moved with the stick.



them on to the stick.

4. Place the stick between the paper plates and move it to begin sailing!

Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

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

What do you fear in life? As humans, we have many fears. Some fear about their health as others fear about failing in life. Whenever fear tries to overwhelm you, it is important to remember that Jesus is the Creator of this universe and that he cares for you. He knows your name and the number of hair on your head. Don't stop trusting Jesus! Memorize the memory verse before you teach today: The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name." (Ps. 91:14)