



Life of Christ

Jesus calms the storm

Matthew 8:23-27

Younger Verse

Do not be afraid. John 14:27

Older Verse

Peace I give you...Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

Lesson Goals

See how we can ask Jesus for help when we are scared
Share how Jesus is powerful. He made a storm stop!

Welcome Time

Have you ever seen a really big storm? It is sometimes very scary. Let's see what happens when Jesus' friends experience a storm.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

The Bible can be so much fun to read! We can learn many things about Jesus and see how we can follow Him.

One time Jesus and His friends were in a boat when a storm came. Jesus' friends were fishermen so they knew how to take care of their boat in a storm. But this storm was so big that waves splashed into the boat! They were scared that they were going to drown. Do you know what Jesus was doing? He was sleeping!! They shook Him awake and pleaded for Him to help them.

Jesus stood up and told the storm to "STOP." Do you know what happened? The storm was gone. Just like that.

Think about it. We have all seen storms come and bring lots of rain. What do you think it must have been like to be on that boat and see Jesus make the storm stop just like that (snap your finger)?

When we read the Bible, we can also learn things that can help us. When we read a story, we can see things that the characters learned. We can think about those things and see how we can change our ways or start doing something God's way.

The Bible not only has great stories to read, but it helps us learn more about God and do things His way. As we are reading, God may help us to see something that we should do or may stop doing.

In today's lesson we can learn to trust Jesus and ask Him for help when we are in trouble. Just like Jesus' friends came to Him when they were scared, we can pray and ask Him for help for our needs.

The Bible tells us that Jesus wanted us to be able to go to Heaven. He knew that because we are dirty with sin, that we could never get to Heaven by ourselves. He knew that there was one way to help us, to make us clean--if He died in our place for the wrong things we have done. So, that's what Jesus did. He died for us.

The best news is that Jesus came back to life 3 days later. He is alive now. Just like Jesus' friends trusted Him with their lives, we can trust Jesus too. If we believe in Jesus and trust Him with our lives, we will be in Heaven too! If you would like to know more about how you can go to Heaven, talk to us during our snack time.

Learning Activities

Try hands-on activities that will help the children learn the lesson. You may want to act out the story using a blue tarp as the water. Or you may want to make little sailboats and create your own storm in a bowl of water (your fingers can be Jesus walking on the water). Use your imagination and think of fun ways for the kids to remember the story.

Memory Verse Activities

Do the wave! Let each child say a word of the verse and raise their hands. If the kids can do it quickly, it looks like they are doing the "wave."

Prayer Time

Circle up and have everyone hold hands. Ask if someone would like to pray. After the children's prayers, say a final prayer thanking Him for helping us with our needs.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring cupcakes with frosting to signify the stormy lake. Use a jelly bean to represent the boat OR use your creative imagination!

Planning for March 30th
The man and the pigs
Matthew 8:28-34

Preschool Lesson
On
Jesus walks on water and calms the storm

Bring a fish cut out of construction paper. You may want to glue on little swiggly eyes. Another idea is to use a sock as a fish puppet.

Hi! I'm a little fish and I want to tell you a BIG story that happened one night while I was swimming in the lake.

While I was swimming with my friends, I saw a fishing boat go by. It had people in it and they were rowing it to the other side of the lake.

Suddenly, the sky grew very dark and the winds started to blow. The waves began to splash against the boat. I could tell that the men were trying their best to row the boat. I was glad that I was in the water. It looked scary up there!

You won't believe what happened next! Some of the men woke another man up. His name was Jesus. He had been sleeping during the storm.

When He said, "STOP," the storm stopped. I couldn't believe it. The storm was gone.. It was calm and quiet.

I knew that Jesus was someone special. No one else could make a storm stop.

The men knew it too. They bowed down and told Him that He was God's Son. They showed Him how much they loved Him.

We can show Jesus how much we love Him too. We can sing songs to Him. We can pray and tell Him how much we love Him. We can also tell others about Him and invite them to church. Let's try to show Him we love Him this week.

Sing, "With Jesus in the boat you can smile through the storm."

Hands-On Activities
For
Can the Bible be fun to read?

The best way for kids to remember this story is to act it out. It is so much fun to pretend to sound like a storm. You may want to use a blue tarp as the “water.” Bring metal containers or cookie sheets to make sounds like lightning and thunder.

Fill little plastic cups with blue Jell-o. Add pineapple fish shapes if available. Talk about the story. You may want to add a little graham person as Jesus and Peter.

Bring a bowl of water and let kids test things that float and sink. Try some things yourself beforehand so that you have objects that both float and sink. (Examples: Little bar of soap, plastic tub toys, coins, cork, craft stick etc.)

Make pretend storms. Fill a plastic bottle 2/3 full with water. Add tsp. of Salt, drop of dish-washing liquid and two drops of blue food coloring. Glue lid on bottle and shake! The mixture will form a funnel like a storm. (Idea courtesy of Sundayschoolcrafts.com)

Bring Lifesaver candies and talk about how Jesus is our Lifesaver.

Before class, put masking tape on the floor to make lines to represent the water. As you are taping, occasionally make a gap in the tape. The kids will pretend they are crossing the water and must jump over the gaps. As they jump across, they must try to say the memory verse. (Idea courtesy of Group Publishing)