

The Connection

Weekly Bible Verse: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding." In all your ways obey him. Then He will make your paths smooth and straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

September 20, 2020

Together



Together we can continue to make sure that children hear the stories of the Bible and of God's love and promises! Together let's keep doing kid's ministry at the time our kids need it most.

Keep Your Eyes on Jesus

Jesus had been teaching for about two years when he sent his disciples out in pairs to teach. They went from town to town teaching people about God and the need for repentance. They were able to drive out demons and heal the sick (Mark 6:12). Right before the event in today's lesson, John the Baptist was beheaded. The disciples all came together again to be with Jesus. They wanted some time alone with him but a crowd of people showed up. It seems everyone had heard about Jesus and wanted to spend time with him. It was then that Jesus surprised the apostles by telling them to feed the crowd - which they did with only two small fish and five small barley loaves. Jesus and his disciples had been around crowds of people for a long time. Now Jesus wanted to spend a little time alone so he could pray.



Jesus Walks on Water Matthew 14:22-36

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a



considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. ²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." ²⁸ "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

landed at Gennesaret. ³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." ³⁴ When they had crossed over, they

landed at Gennesaret. ³⁵ And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him ³⁶ and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

The disciples worshipped Jesus after He rescued them from the stormy waters.

How can we worship God?

- ♦ Singing praises,
- ♦ Obeying God,
- ♦ Serving Him and others,
- ♦ Having a loving attitude,
- ♦ Reading the Bible
- ♦ Memorizing Bible verses.
- ♦ Worshipping God begins in our heart when we put God first.



Additional Pages:

Coloring Page - Keep Your Eyes on Jesus

Word Puzzle - Jesus/Peter Walk on Water (2)

Resources:

Peter Walks on Water—Saddleback Kids.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVy9HG3Qig>

God's Story: Peter Walks on Water
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HG614fkB6wE>



Questions for Today's Lesson

I wonder if I would have gotten out of the boat like Peter did.

I wonder what the other disciples thought when they saw Peter sinking.

I wonder what Peter was thinking when he started to sink.

Digging Deeper

Making the Lesson Come Alive!

- ♦ Children can write words from the story with squirt guns on the sidewalk. Bible words such as Faith, Peter, Lord, Jesus, doubt from today's lesson are suggestions.
- ♦ Throw a water balloon and let it "splat" on the sidewalk. Then use sidewalk chalk to trace around their water mark to create sidewalk art.
- ♦ Make an origami boat. <https://www.dltk-kids.com/bible/crafts/mboat.htm>
- ♦ Find the Sea of Galilee on a Bible map. Learn about it. Is it bigger or smaller than the lake nearest your home..
- ♦ Go and watch boats in the water and tell the story.

- ♦ Read Psalm 91 together. What does God promise us?
- ♦ Enjoy blue jello (to represent the water). Add a gummy bear or teddy graham (to represent Peter).
- ♦ Watch: Veggie Tale *Where is God when I'm Scared*, produced by Big Idea Productions
- ♦ Prayer: Dear God,
Thank you for rescuing us from the stormy seas of life
Help us to remember to trust in you for strength and power
Help us to keep our eyes and hearts fixed on you
We can do nothing without you
Thank you for giving us strength
Thank you for your love
We love you, God!
In Jesus name, Amen!



Lessons from the Story of Jesus Walking on Water

- ♦ To explore the idea of trusting God even when times are hard.
- ♦ To recognize that Jesus is present with us always, even in difficult times and is able to help us.
- ♦ To understand that miracles are signs revealing the identity of Jesus.
- ♦ To know that their doubts and fears will not keep Jesus from reaching out to save them.
- ♦ To hear Jesus' words and actions in the story as compassionate and comforting. To learn that we should never doubt God.

