



Life of Christ

Jesus walks on water and calms the storm Matthew 8 and 14

Younger Verse

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105

Older Verse

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105

Lesson Goals

Share something fun about reading the Bible
Encourage the children to read their Bibles this week

Welcome Time

What do you like to do for fun? (wait for answers) There is something else that is fun to do...reading the Bible. Let's look and see how the Bible can be fun to read.

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.

There are all kinds of stories in the Bible. Let's look at several that are unbelievable!

Jesus spent lots of time with His 12 friends. They walked and talked about God. Sometimes, Jesus would do things that would shock or stun His friends.

One time, Jesus stayed on land to pray while His friends sailed in a boat. Suddenly, a storm came. Jesus' friends tried to row the boat to safety when they saw something that terrified them. Who was it? It was Jesus walking on the water!

It's easy to say, "I remember that story." If you think about it, it must have been amazing to see Jesus walking on water!! When we go swimming, can we walk on water? No. Think about what it must have been like to see Jesus do this miracle.

Another time Jesus and His friends were in a boat when another 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)?

These are just two of the stories that are really fun and interesting to read. There are many, many more. When we read the Bible, try to put yourself in the story. Think about what it must have been like to experience the things that happened.

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.

The Bible also helps us know something VERY important. God helped people write the Bible to help us know how much He loves us. Different people wrote different parts of the Bible. Each part helps us see how God has a plan for us and loves us. The most important way He showed His love is by sending His Son, Jesus, to live here.

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 AND remember that the Bible is fun to read.

Memory Verse Activities

Let the kids etch the verse with toothpicks and lemon juice. It will be invisible. After it dries, place the paper close to a light bulb. The light will make the lemon juice verse "appear" on the paper. Talk about how the Bible helps us know the right things to do and the right way to go.

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 asking God to help us to depend on Him totally.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring cupcakes with frosting to signify the stormy lake. Use a jelly bean to represent the boat and a graham snack to represent Jesus and/or Peter OR use your creative imagination!

Planning for June 23rd
How do I remember verses and why?
Jesus is tempted
Matthew 4

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 day while I was swimming in the lake.

One night 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! One of the men gasped and said, "It's a g-g-ghost!"

I looked up and saw someone walking on the water! I do not know how this man did it!

Then the man spoke. It was Jesus! He told the men to be calm and not to be afraid.

Then one of the men asked to walk on water too. He hopped out of the boat and walked on water too. He almost stepped on me!

Then he began to sink in the water because he was not looking at Jesus.

He yelled for Jesus to help him. Jesus saved the man and they both climbed into the boat.

Immediately, the storm stopped. It was calm and quiet.

I knew that Jesus was someone special. No one else could walk on water or 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?

Teachers, try to help the kids get excited about reading their Bibles. Make the lesson fun and share how you personally like to read the Bible and learn things about God and Jesus. Look up other fun stories: the donkey that really talked, the day the sun stood still, people that Jesus made well, and Jesus rising from the grave.

The best way for kids to remember this story is to act it out. It is so much fun to pretend to see a ghost and then watch Peter sink into the “water.” You may want to use a blue tarp as the “water.”

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.

Make a water scope. Take the bottom out of a wax-type paper cup. Place plastic wrap over the hole and secure with a rubber band. Let the kids use their water scope to look at objects in a bowl of water. (You may want to put all kinds of objects in the water to look at.)

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.)