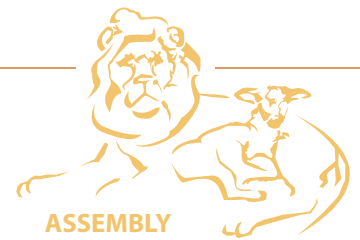


JESUS CALMS THE STORM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 8:22-25



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

IN THE BOAT WITH JESUS

Supplies

- masking tape
- a fan
- a small plastic bowl

Draw an outline of a boat big enough to carry the whole class with masking tape on the floor. Position the fan to blow on the boat. Fill the small bowl half full of water. Act out the drama with one of the children playing Jesus and the rest the disciples. Have them all set out in the boat and then tell them that a storm is coming in. Have the children lean to the left, then right, and back again. Turn the fan on high, blowing right on them and tell them that the waves are starting to come into the boat. As you say that, flick a sprinkle of water on them. Tell them to act scared and wake up Jesus calling frantically, "Master, Master, we are going to die." Have Jesus calmly rise and tell the wind and the waves, "Peace, be still." At that time, turn off the fan and have the children stop leaning.

At that point have the children stay in the boat and ask them why they thought the disciples were afraid and why Jesus said they should have had faith. Explain to them that Jesus was God and in control of everything, even the wind and the waves. Although the disciples thought they were in danger, nothing would have happened to them that Jesus did not control and allow.

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 8:22-25

COMMANDING THE WIND

Supplies

a glass of water

This passage tells us that Jesus commanded the wind and water.

Ask for a volunteer from your class. Open up a window in your classroom and have the volunteer speak to the wind and tell it to blow or be stilled, depending on the weather. Have another volunteer speak to the glass of water and give it a few commands like splash, bubble, or swirl. Obviously the children will not be able to command the wind and the water, but you can use this as an illustration to help them understand how different Jesus was. Tell them that though He was fully man (He really was a man) He was also fully God. As God, Jesus could command any part of His creation.

WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Why was it that the disciples could be assured of their safety? It was because the promised Messiah was in the boat with them. But it is clear they did not yet understand just who Jesus was. Jesus was no ordinary rabbi, no ordinary teacher, nor was He an ordinary prophet.

Jesus was the Messiah, and He had come to save Israel from their sins. When Jesus rebuked the wind and the water, the disciples questioned again, "Who is this?" Who is Jesus? That is the million dollar question. Jesus was the Son of God who was fully man and fully God. As a man, He needed His rest and so He fell asleep on the boat. As God, He held all things together by the power of His word.

It would not be until after Jesus died, rose again, and then appeared to His disciples that they would fully understand the answer to the question, "Who is this?" At that time, Jesus would have secured the salvation of all who believe in who He is.

