

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 8:22-25



The STORY

Read about Jesus calming the storm in Luke 8:22-25.

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What happened to the disciples when they were in the boat? (A windstorm came down on the lake.)
- What is a windstorm? (A storm with very strong winds. You might want to have the children stand up and pretend very strong winds are blowing against them. You could have them sway like the trees.)
- How did the disciples feel on the boat with such strong winds? (The disciples became afraid.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: a boat being rocked by the waves with the disciples in it looking afraid. Engage the children by asking:

- Why are the disciples afraid? (They thought they would die because the boat was filling with water and the wind was tossing the boat around.)
- Where was Jesus? (Jesus was sleeping in the boat.)
- What did Jesus tell them after they woke him up? (He asked them where their faith was. They should have known that Jesus would protect them.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- Have you ever been afraid? (Accept any answer.)
- What should we do when we are afraid? (We should trust Jesus to care for us when we are afraid and not worry. We can pray to the Lord when we are afraid, see Psalm 56:3)
- What did Jesus do when the disciples woke him? (Jesus calmed the storm.)

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.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

