

January 28, 2018

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Walking on the Stormy Water*

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God kept His greatest and best promise by sending His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins.

Today our children learn about Jesus walking on the stormy waters to His disciples. Again, we see where Jesus sends His disciples onward into danger, but appears to them in their distress to save the them. This time the faith of Peter is tested and not the whole twelve, or at least this is how Matthew tells the story. It's worth noting that in this story, as in the ones from this whole month, we see a few prominent themes. The first is Christ's compassion. His desire to see the crowd off and eventually his appearance to the disciples and rescue of Peter should continually remind us of Christ's mission: to seek and to save that which is lost. The second theme is Christ's authority over all things. Jesus' ability to walk on water transcends the laws of physics, but those laws know their Maker and Sustainer. The last is the element of faith in the story. As we saw a few weeks ago, the faith of the disciples, and in this case Peter, is tested in the midst of strife. Noteworthy is that the object of our faith, Christ, is what saves us, if only we look to Him in the midst of our fiercest storms. Even more, the storms may rage on but we can rest assured that Christ has promised not to leave us nor forsake us.

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-36; Mark 6:45-56; John 6:16-24

Story: Vos Child's Study Bible, Pages 294-295, The Beginner's Bible, Pages 380-385, The Gospel Story Bible, Pages 200-201.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

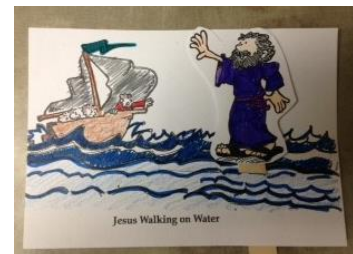
Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

Craft: Jesus Walks on Water

Supplies: Cardstock water scene, Jesus figure, craft stick, tape, crayons/markers

- Instructions:**
1. Color Jesus and water scene
 2. Attach Jesus figure to craft stick
 3. Place craft stick in slit to move Jesus across the water



Relay of the Day: Walking on Water

Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

- **Cherub Church** for 3's (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165) – 11:40-11:55

Craft: Jesus Walks on Water

Supplies: Cardstock water scene, Jesus figure, glue stick

- Instructions:**
1. Glue Jesus figure over blanked out piece on scene
 2. Fold paper next to Jesus and again so he is next to boat



Relay of the Day: Walking on Water

Story: *Walking on the Stormy Water*

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, can you walk on water? (Allow for giggles and answers) Well maybe if it's frozen! But in our story today, Jesus does just that – He walks on water but it's not frozen! Let's find out why He walked on water...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- Jesus sends his disciples in a boat across the lake. Eventually a storm comes upon the boat and the disciples struggle to make it to the other side of the lake.
- Jesus sees the disciples and walks out on water to them.
- The disciples see Jesus, but think He's a ghost. Peter cries out to Jesus for permission to walk on water to Him. Jesus tells Peter to walk.
- Peter, upon seeing the conditions, begins to sink in the water. Jesus reaches out and saves him. Jesus questions Peter's faith in Him.
- Jesus and the disciples land on the shore. Upon landing, many people come to Jesus to be healed.

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, can you walk on water? (Allow for giggles and answers) Well maybe if it's frozen! But in our story today, Jesus does just that! But let's find out why He was walking on water...

Walking on The Stormy Water

Then Jesus told his followers to get into the boat and go to Bethsaida on the other side of the lake. Jesus said that he would come later. He stayed behind to tell the people they could go home. After sending them away, Jesus went into the hills to pray.

That night, the boat with the disciples had made its way to the middle of the lake. However, Jesus was still on land and alone. Jesus had been watching the disciples and boat for some time. He saw the disciples working hard to row the boat because the wind was blowing against them. In the early morning, the Bible tells us sometime between three and six o'clock in the morning, Jesus came to them. But Jesus was not in a boat, Jesus was walking on the water! He continued walking until he was almost past the boat. But when his disciples saw him walking on the water, they thought he was a ghost and cried out. They all saw him and were terrified. But Jesus spoke to them and said, "Have courage! It is I! Do not be afraid."

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, if that is really you, then tell me to come to you on the water."

Jesus said, "Come."

And Peter left the boat and walked on the water to Jesus. But when Peter saw the wind and the waves, he became afraid and began to sink. He shouted, "Lord, save me!" Then Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter. Jesus said, "Your faith is small. Why did you doubt me?"

Jesus and Peter went back to the boat. When they got in, the wind became calm. Then those who were in the boat worshiped Jesus and said, "Truly you are the Son of God!" The disciples were greatly amazed.

Jesus and the disciples eventually made it to shore. They tied the boat there in a small village. When they got out of the boat, the people saw Jesus and immediately recognized him. They ran to tell others everywhere in that area that Jesus was there. They brought sick people on mats to every place Jesus went. Jesus went into towns and cities and farms around that area. And everywhere he went, the people brought the sick to him. The crowds begged Jesus to let them just touch the edge of his coat. And all who touched him were healed.

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What did Jesus tell his disciples to get in?
- Where did Jesus see the disciples?
- What were the disciples doing?
- How did Jesus get to the disciples?
- Who wanted to come to Jesus?
- What happened to Peter?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God's love for us?

Scripture Memory for January:

Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." (Matthew 14:27)

Catechism Questions (1-20)

Hymn of the Month:

All Creatures of Our God and King