

BRAVE

TAKE A NEW STEP

3PK

April 25-26, 2015

DATE

Matthew 14:22-33

WHERE TO FIND IT

BRAVE Journey: Power

LESSON TITLE

God helps us (gives us power) to follow him.

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 10 minutes of the service hour:

Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 30 minutes: Snack and Small Group

Finish early? Repeat the activity! Kids this age learn through repetition. Or, check out the end of the activities section to find an idea for this week.

tips

Don't just supervise; get on the floor and play *with* the kids. They might want to pretend you're Batman or a unicorn, but that's okay. Meet them at their level.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to share their coloring page with the adult who picks them up. See if they can repeat any of the phrases from the parachute game!

large group heads up

This story might be tough for kids to grasp. But the overarching concept is that Jesus gives us strength because we are weak on our own. Even if kids don't fully understand the power Jesus offers us, they can begin to understand that we **NEED** him.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line up. Then tell kids today's story is about God's power. Let's pretend to be powerful for a minute. Ask kids to complete the following strength challenges (but gently push them to do more than they can actually do to show that we aren't powerful on our own):
 - Flex your muscles (see if you can flex so much your shirt rips)
 - Run in place as fast as you can (go faster!)
 - Do a push-up (keep doing them!)
 - Stay balanced while standing on only one leg as long as you can
 - Hold your breath as long as you can
 - Freeze in place and stay perfectly still

Before you go, practice putting on your listening ears to hear the story. Then tip-toe in together!



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) recall that Peter needed Jesus' help/power and (2) understand that THEY need Jesus' help/power (we're using both "help" and "power" to connect it to what adults hear, but also keep really simple for kids)

Why? If kids begin to understand now that they need Jesus, they will be better prepared to rely on him as they get older.

Tip: This story reflects the power of Jesus' unconditional love and forgiveness. That's a lot for a 3- or 4-year-old to grasp, so simply celebrate Jesus' love and power.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why do we need help sometimes? (we can't do everything by ourselves)
2. How did Peter need help? (to walk on the water, and to follow Jesus because he made wrong choices)
3. What wrong choice did Peter make in today's story? (pretended he didn't know Jesus, three times)
4. What did Peter do when he realized he had made the wrong choice? (cried)
5. What did Jesus do when Peter messed up? (he forgave him and loved him, told him to keep on following)
6. How can Jesus help us or give us power? (Have kids think about a time they got scared and God helped them to be brave ...or a time they didn't want to share or wanted to be mean and God helped them do the right thing)

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

**We want kids to have fun and remember the highlights of today's story.*

- Play musical **parachute**: play a **Kids' Club CD**. While it is playing, kids can hold the edges of the parachute and "make waves." When the music stops, everyone quickly gets under the parachute or sits down on the ground.
- Place a **beach ball** on top of the **parachute** and have kids work together to keep it on the chute. As they bounce the ball, shout phrases of trust together. Here are some ideas:
 - God helps me!
 - Jesus loves me!
 - God is powerful!
- Have kids hold the chute and walk in a circle while making waves.

***Pray, asking God to give kids power to be brave this week.**

Give kids a Peter coloring page. Still have extra time I Spy: You can play this from your seats or walk around the room. Lead first, to show the kids how to play. Say, "I spy something with the color _____" and let the kids guess. Or say, "I spy something shaped like a _____" and let the kids guess. Let the kids come up with their own objects too.



special notes

Help kids understand that we need Jesus' help to follow him! We can't do it by ourselves.

presenter tips

Wear a microphone! Headset or lapel mic, whatever works best for you...but just wear one. A mic gives you the option of lowering or raising your voice—changing inflection. That's a great technique to keep their attention.

script

Presenter: Hi Friends! Welcome to Kid's Club. I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS. She's going to remind us of the kind of choices we can make today in Kids' Club.

Video: HOPS 1 Have Fun! (*about 1 minute*)

Wow, let me see those listening ears again (let kids respond). Great! Now raise your hand if you're ready to have some fun in Kids' Club today! (Let kids respond.) Me too! Alright, let's start by remembering the beginning of a very special story....

REVIEW THE BEGINNING OF GOD'S STORY

Presenter: (Hold up the **Bible** for kids to see.) This is where we can read about God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this story is the most important. It's God's Rescue plan.

Remember how God made the whole world and everything was good? The world was perfect! Give me a smile! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.) But THEN, something bad happened. A snake tricked the first two people, Adam and Eve, into thinking they didn't need to trust or obey God. So Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sadness and death came into the world... Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond) This was *really* sad.

But even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God...God loved them anyway! And he planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve—and you and me—can be close to God again. We've been talking about that King and Rescuer. His name is....(Let kids say: Jesus!) Yes, Jesus!

PETER RECAP

We've been talking about how a guy who followed Jesus. Does anybody remember his name? (Let kids say: Peter) That's right, Peter! And if it's your first time here or you don't remember Peter, that's OK! We heard about how he followed Jesus and how he chose to be BRAVE. And



script continued

today, we're going to find out that he was BRAVE because he had God's POWER.

POWER INTRO

So when we are brave, we trust that God will help us...instead of getting scared. And God helps us do things that we can't do alone. **(click to show loop of the stormy sea)** Remember, we talked about one of the times Peter was brave. He was on a boat and the weather was stormy. Jesus was walking on the water and he asked Peter to come out and walk with him. Peter actually got out of the boat, onto water like *that* (refer to loop) and walked on top of it!

Now, what happens usually if we jump out of a boat or off the side of a swimming pool? (Let kids say: we sink). Yes, we sink and splash into the water. The reason that this didn't happen was because God's power was helping Peter! He NEEDED God's power to walk on water.

PETER NEEDED POWER TO FOLLOW JESUS

You guys tested your strength before you came into Large Group. And you looked pretty powerful. But there are just some things we can't do, too. Let's see, stand up for a minute (let kids stand). Can any of you touch the ceiling? Let's try. (Let kids try.) OK, go ahead and sit down (let kids sit). There's just no way to do it by yourself. We need to be taller or have a ladder! We need help, right? And there are lots of other things we need help with.

In fact, guess what? (Pause and lean in, as if you're letting them in on a secret.) *We can't even follow Jesus by ourselves. We need his help!*

Think about it: hold up one finger if you can think of a time you made a wrong choice. Maybe you were mean or hurt somebody or didn't want to share (hold up your finger too). We all mess up. And Peter messed up too! We're going to watch a video about it. At the end of the video, you'll see that Peter keeps on following Jesus, even though he messed up. As you watch, see if you can figure out what Peter NEEDS to keep following Jesus!

Video: God's Story / Peter Denies Jesus

Wow, so Peter pretended he didn't even *know* Jesus! That definitely was a wrong choice. But when Jesus found out, show me with your head, yes (nodding) or no (shaking head), did Jesus forgive him? (Let kids respond.) Yes! (Nod vigorously.) Jesus forgave Peter and said, "Keep following me!" That love and forgiveness gave Peter the power he needed to keep following Jesus!

WE NEED POWER TO FOLLOW JESUS

Guess what? Jesus loves us like that and forgives us when we make wrong choices, too. He helps us follow him too! So when we don't feel like sharing, God will help us share. Or if we call somebody a name, God will help us use kind words next time. We can ask him for help with *anything!*

Now let's pray and ask God to give us power to bravely follow him. (Pray, breaking it into smaller, repeatable phrases.)



script continued

Pray: Hi God! Thanks for being Peter's friend. Thanks for forgiving him even when he wasn't nice to you. Thanks for helping me to act like you. I love you. In Jesus' name, A-men!

WORSHIP

Now let's stand up and worship God. Worship is when we tell him how much we love him and thank him for being such a powerful and loving king!

Music Video: Jesus Loves Me

Song: Be Strong

Extra Song: King of the Jungle

Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop--like Hops--to their groups.)



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name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

none

small group supplies

Per kid

Coloring page

Take-home item??? (TBD)

Per room

KC CD (Love Beats)

Beach ball

Parachute

large group supplies

Jesus Storybook Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: HOPS 1 Have Fun (<https://vimeo.com/25767958>)
3. Video: stormy loop
4. Video: God's Story / Peter Denies Jesus (should be on Vimeo; if not, Dave/Mae have file)
5. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (with hand motions) (<https://vimeo.com/44164426>)
6. Song: Be Strong
7. Extra Song: King of the Jungle

connect questions

Tell me about Peter.

Why do we need God's help?

parent page