

Jesus Calmed a Storm

Mark 4:35-41

Jesus is: All-Powerful

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
-John 14:6

Summer Sunday Schedule:

10:45-10:55 - Welcome/arrival

11:00 - 11:20 - Game Station (LG1)

11:25-11:45 - Story Station (LG2)

11:50-12:10 - Project Station (Classroom)

12:15 - Stay in room for dismissal

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Take time to prepare your heart and mind by spending time in the Word reading

Mark 4:35-41. Note your observations about Jesus' character and what truths you see so you can share them with the kids.

Through this story, we see Jesus' authority over all creation. This is a comforting truth, especially as we navigate the storms of life. Remind kids that Jesus allowed the disciples to experience the danger of the storm and gave them an opportunity to demonstrate their faith in Him. When we face hard things we can cling to Jesus in faith, trusting that His power will see us through.

We want our kids to see that the storms of life help us to see who Jesus really is. He cares when we are scared and He wants us to come to Him for help.



When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class, and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



LESSON OVERVIEW

- None

Ask the class: ***Have you ever experienced a strong storm, hurricane, or blizzard? What was it like? How did you feel during the storm? If you were scared, did anything make you feel better?*** (Allow responses)

Summarize Mark 4:35-41 and then discuss the following questions:

How did Jesus calming the storm show the disciples He is God?

Remind kids that as soon as the disciples saw Jesus calm the storm, they realized Jesus was no ordinary man. Tell kids that Jesus is God and only God has power over all creation.

What is faith? Did the disciples show faith in the storm? Why not?

Explain that faith is believing that God exists and that what He has told us about Himself in His Word is true. Remind kids that faith pleases God. Discuss how Jesus pointed out the disciples' lack of faith because they feared for their lives in the storm. Help kids remember that God can be trusted at all times and that when we trust in Him we display faith in who He is and His promises.

How did Jesus show faith during the storm?

Discuss how Jesus slept during the storm not because He didn't care about the disciples, but because He knew the outcome of the storm and was in control of the storm. Lead kids to understand that as God in flesh, Jesus is one with God and trusted in God's plans. Remind kids that it was not time for Jesus to die because He knew that He had come to die on the cross for people's sins. Encourage kids to think about how Jesus' faith in God can help us remember to trust God when we go through difficult times.



ACTIVITY:

Jesus Calms the Storm

- Cloud template
- Boat cut-out
- Blue construction paper
- Markers
- Colored Pencils
- Glue sticks
- Masking tape or scotch tape
- Craft stick

Pass out a boat cut-out to each child. Have them color the boat.

Give each child a piece of blue construction paper and the cloud paper. Have them rip the blue paper lengthways to create 3 waves. Glue only the sides to the white paper. Encourage them to overlap them to make the waves.

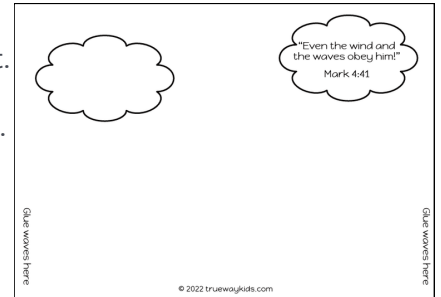
Then, have them tape a craft stick to the back of the boat. Insert it between the waves and the white paper. Show them how to use the stick to move the boat up and down.

Ask: What did Jesus say to the wind and waves? (Silence! Be Still!)

Immediately, everything obeys Him. The disciples ask, "Who is this?" In the Bible, only God commands the forces of nature, so this shows us something huge: Jesus is not just a wise teacher or kind leader. He is Lord over creation itself. Before, they knew He was a great teacher. After the storm, they saw that He has the power of God Himself. Sometimes it's in the scariest moments that we see Jesus the clearest. You might not like your storms, but they can help you know Jesus in a deeper way.

Ask: What do we know is true about Jesus from this story?

- He is all-powerful
- He is Lord over everything
- He works miracles
- He's a helper when I'm in trouble, worried or fearful



Beach Ball Prayers

- Beach Ball - with the following categories already filled in

Have the children stand in a circle and explain the beach ball categories:

- I praise you for...
- Thank you for...
- Jesus, forgive me.
- Please help me with...
- Hallelujah!

Have fun throwing the ball from person to person. When a child catches the ball, have them check and see where their right index finger landed and read off that prayer prompt and say a short prayer.

The point is to practice and to pray, not to be perfect. Here are examples of how you can pray in each way.

"Hallelujah!" is easy! We just want our kids to be joyfully praising God. Have them shout "Hallelujah!" and do a silly dance or move.

"Jesus, forgive me." Notice that we ended this with a period. You can confess something out loud, pause and silently confess, or just move on. This is not the time to drill in confession, this game is lighthearted and fun. Just saying the words, "forgive me" is hard enough and is good practice for kids (and adults!)

"Thank you for..." involves thanking God for a person or thing you are praying for.

"Please help..." is asking God for help with something or someone. For example, "Lord, Harper has a cold please make her feel better."

"I Praise You for..." is also very similar to "thank you." But in a praise, we are directing our attention to God's work. The focus should be on God, not on a person or thing.