

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:

8:55-9:05 - Welcome/arrival
9:10-9:30 - Game Station (LG1)
9:35-9:55 - Story Station (LG2)
10:10-10:20 - Project Station (classroom)
10:20-10:45 - Stay in classroom; snack and transition to 2nd service.

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:

Staying Afloat

- Large clear bin
- Aluminum Foil
- Craft sticks
- Tape
- Cardboard pieces
- Markers
- Pencils

Fill the large clear bin with water and set it on a table.

Form kids into groups of two to four and provide each group with various supplies such as aluminum foil, craft sticks, tape, and cardboard.

Challenge groups to use the supplies to build a boat that will float in water. Add in an additional challenge of seeing how much weight (lego pieces) it can hold. Give them a set amount of time to work on it.

Before you test their boats, come back together as a class and talk about how Jesus cares when we are scared.

In the middle of the storm, the disciples shout “Teacher, don’t You care that we are perishing?”

- Talk about how maybe they have thought something like that before - questioning if God even cares what is happening to them. Remind them that the amazing thing of this story is that Jesus doesn’t get mad or walk away. He stands up and speaks to the storm and makes it completely calm. Then He talks to His friends about their fear. Jesus cares about how each of them feel, not just about fixing the problem.

SAY: Jesus knows and cares! You don’t have to pretend to be “fine” with God. You can be honest. He always knows, but He wants you to bring it to Him. He may not take away the storm right away, but He promises to never leave you alone!

ASK: What are some worries or fears that you have that makes you feel like you are sinking?

Take the duplo blocks and write their responses on individual lego pieces with a dry erase marker.

Then invite groups to test if their boats will float by placing it in the bin filled with water and adding the duplo blocks, one at a time, until they begin to sink. As they begin to sink, take the duplos back out and remind them that they can give their worries and fears to God instead. We aren’t meant to carry them alone.



MEMORY VERSE GAME

Hopscotch

- Key Passage Poster
- Colored Paper with words from verse
- Masking Tape

Practice John 14:6 together a few times.

*Before class, tape the words (in the correct order) in a hopscotch pattern on the floor. (Make it as simple or elaborate as you want! The one pictured is just an example of how it could look)

Practice the verse together. Then have the kids gather around the hopscotch and have volunteers do the hopscotch while everyone says the verse aloud as they hop. Repeat for as many kids as time allows.

