

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Mark

LESSON 16

**JESUS CALMS THE
STORM**

MARK 4:35-41

Life of Christ

Jesus Calms the Storm

Mark 4:35-41

Younger Verse

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1

Older Verse

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1

Lesson Goals

Understand that Jesus has power over all things, including nature
Recognize that the disciples were still learning to trust Him completely
Learn that we can turn to Jesus in times of trouble

Opener

What do you do whenever there is a thunderstorm outside? How does a storm make you feel? Today we are going to see what Jesus and His friends did when they were in the middle of a storm.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

In our last two stories, Jesus was teaching the people from a boat. Last week He shared with them about a mustard seed and a lamp. Lamps are used to help people see in the dark. When we share about Jesus with other people, we are being “lights” because we are helping them learn about God.

Soon it began getting dark outside. Jesus had His disciples with Him. Does anyone remember who the disciples are? The people that Jesus picked to tell others about God’s love. Jesus said to them, “Let us go over to the other side of the lake.” The great crowd of people stayed behind. Jesus had been talking to the people for a long time, so He was probably ready to rest for a little bit. So, as the disciples were moving the boat, Jesus took a nap.

Suddenly, a very strong wind swept across the water. What do you think the water began to do? It began to make huge waves. The waves were so big that the boat began to fill with water. If a boat gets too much water, what will happen? Yes, it will sink! How do you think the disciples were feeling? Scared? What about Jesus? Was He scared? Wait a minute, Jesus was still taking a nap!

The disciples decided to wake up Jesus. They rushed over to Him and said, “Teacher, don’t you care about us? We are going to drown!”

Jesus stood up and commanded the wind and the waves to stop. He said, “Quiet! Be still!” Just as quickly as it had come, it went away. The wind became calm and the waves settled down.

Jesus looked at His disciples and said, “Why were you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” The disciples were very afraid and asked each other, “What kind of man is this? Even

the wind and the waves obey Him.”

Why was Jesus upset with the disciples? (Let the children answer.) Was He upset that the waves were big and that the wind was strong? No, He was disappointed with the disciples. He had been in the boat with them the whole time, and they still became afraid. They even asked if He cared about them. We know that Jesus cared about them. Jesus cares about us, even when scary or bad things are happening around us. He wants us to trust Him during those times. He wants us to know that He will take care of us no matter what is happening. Having faith is believing in what you cannot see. We may not know how a situation is going to turn out, but we can trust God to be there with us the whole time.

We can trust Jesus to be our friend. He died on the cross, and three days later, came back to life so that we could have a way to Heaven. If we ask Jesus to take away all the wrong things we do, He will. Once those are gone, then He stays in our hearts forever. If you want to know more, please talk with me before you leave.

Review Questions

1. What was Jesus doing when the big storm came up? (sleeping)
2. How did Jesus stop the storm? (He spoke and the water became calm)
3. What do we need to do when problems come in our lives? (trust Jesus and ask for His help)

Prayer Time

Pray that the children’s faith will grow every day, so they will know that Jesus is with them always.

Life Application

The disciples were afraid, even though Jesus was with them. If we have asked Jesus into our heart, then He is with us, too. His Holy Spirit lives in us. So when we go through hard times or are afraid, we need to remember that Jesus is with us!

We talked last week about having faith. It starts out with just a little faith, like a small mustard seed. But as we exercise our faith by trusting God, it grows, just like a plant grows. We can help our faith to grow by learning more about God and praying. When hard times come, we will turn to God and not be afraid.

Planning for Lesson 17
Jesus Has Power Over Evil
Mark 5:1-20

Preschool Lesson for Jesus Calms the Storm

Make sailor hats out of large construction paper or newspaper for the children to wear during the story (if desired).

Ahoy, boys and girls! Today our story is going to have us sailing in a boating adventure. So grab on the side of the boat, get your life jackets and away we go!

Hey, look over there! (Point in a direction.) Someone is standing inside a boat talking—who is it? It is Jesus! He must be teaching all about God.

Now He and His friends are taking the boat out sailing. It looks like He is lying down to... to take a nap. He must have been talking for a long time. Do you want to follow the boat Jesus is in? Okay, let's go.

Uh-oh, here comes a big wind. Oh no, the water and the waves are moving us all around! (Have the children sway with you.) Do you think Jesus is still taking a nap? Let's look. He is! His friends seem to be scared. The boat is filling up with water. They are going over to wake Him up. "Jesus wake up! Don't you care if we drown?"

Jesus stands up. He speaks to the wind and waves, "Quiet! Be still!" At that moment, the wind stopped and waves calmed down. (Stop swaying back and forth). He looks at His friends and asks them, "Why were you afraid? Didn't you remember that I was here with you?"

Wow! Jesus was able to make the wind and the waves do what He wanted. That was amazing. There is something else that is important, too. Jesus wanted His friends and us to know that whenever we are scared, we can trust Him to be with us. Even though we can not see Him, we can believe in our hearts that He is there for us. Remember each day that Jesus is there for you.

Sing "With Jesus in Your Boat"

Hands-on Activities for Jesus Calms the Storm

The best way for kids to remember this story is to act it out. It is so much fun to pretend to sound like a storm. You may want to use a blue tarp as the “water.” Bring metal containers or cookie sheets to make sounds like lightning and thunder.

Fill little plastic cups with blue Jell-o. Add pineapple fish shapes if available. Talk about the story. You may want to add little graham people as Jesus and the disciples.

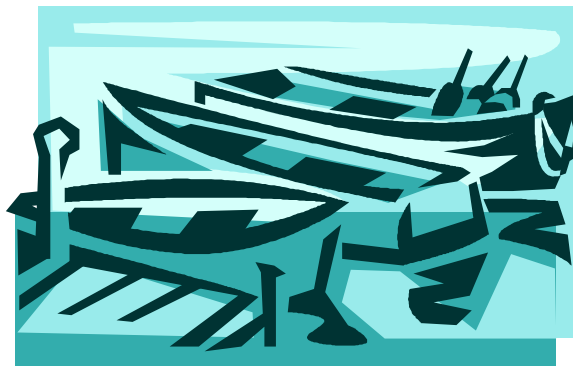
Bring a bowl of water and let kids test things that float and sink. Try some things yourself beforehand so that you have objects that both float and sink. (Examples: Little bar of soap, plastic tub toys, coins, cork, craft stick etc.)

Make pretend storms. Fill a plastic bottle 2/3 full with water. Add 1 tsp. of salt, a drop of dishwashing liquid, and two drops of blue food coloring. Glue the lid on the bottle and shake! The mixture will form a funnel-like a storm. (Idea courtesy of Sundayschoolcrafts.com)

Bring Lifesaver candies and talk about how Jesus is our Lifesaver.

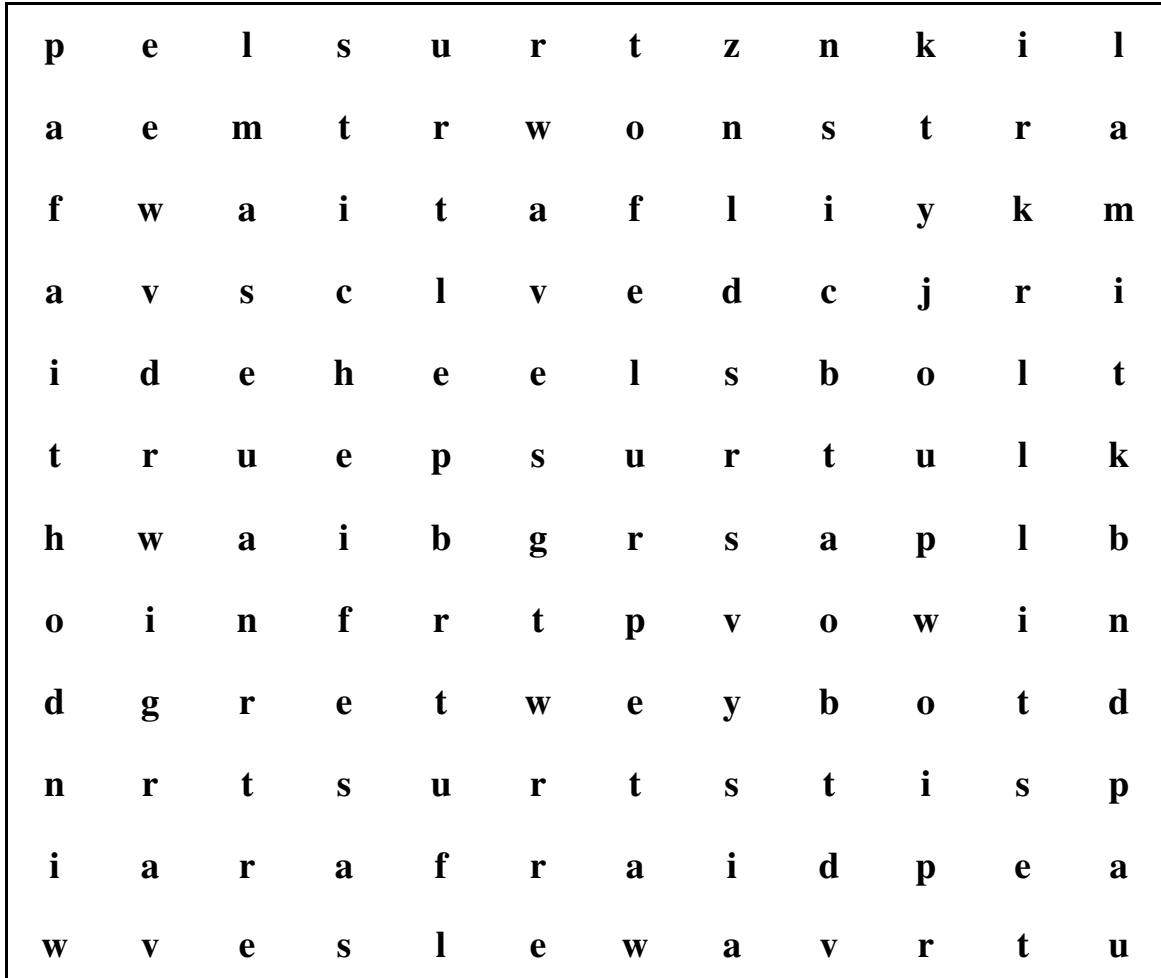
Before class, put masking tape on the floor to make lines to represent the water. As you are taping, occasionally make a gap in the tape. The kids will pretend they are crossing the water and must jump over the gaps. As they jump across, they must try to say the memory verse. (Idea courtesy of Group Publishing)

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Hebrews 11:1**



Word Search

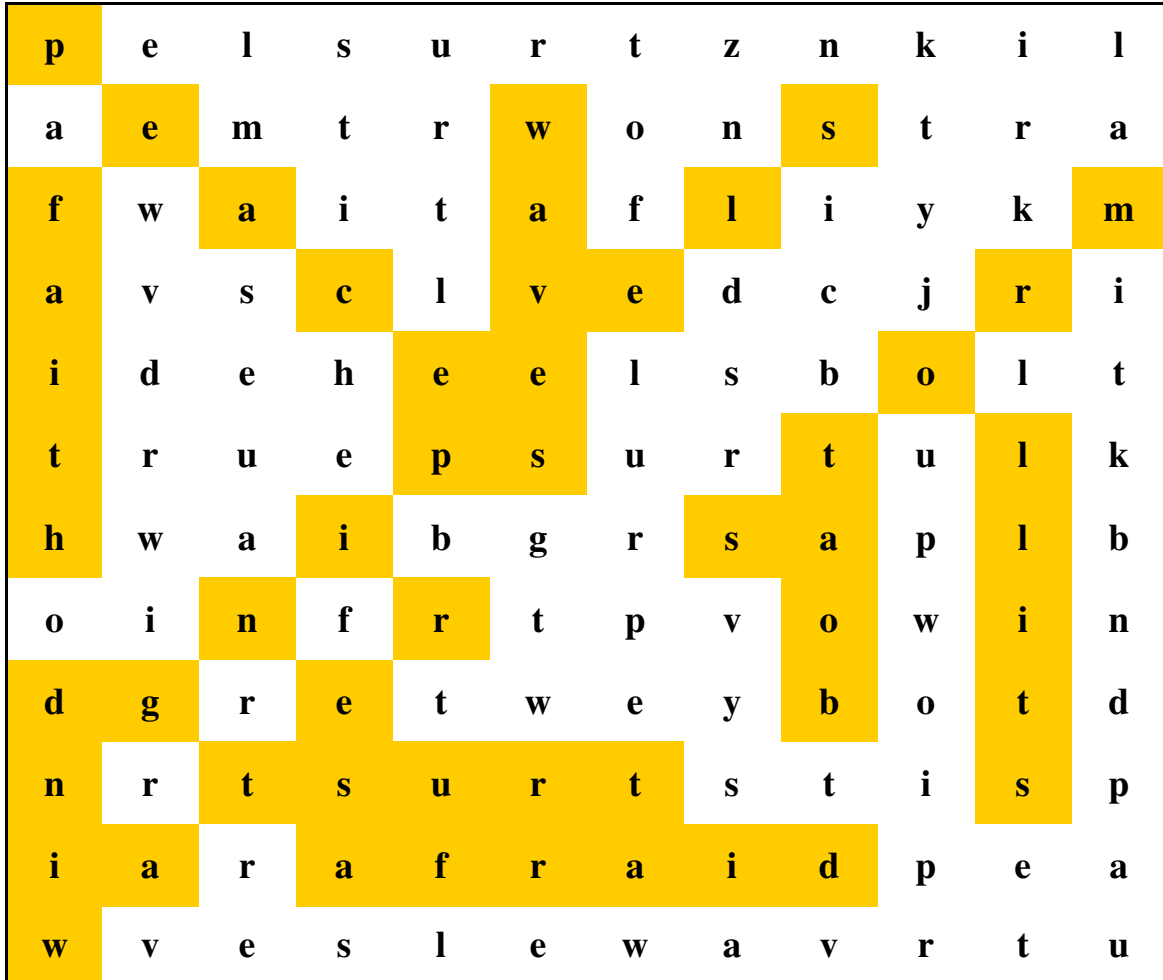
Jesus Calms the Storm



boat	waves	storm
afraid	sleeping	peace
still	water	wind
faith	trust	

Word Search

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Jesus calmed a

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