



All Hands on Deck

Jump In

This week we begin a month long look at stories that illustrate Jesus showing God's power. Today we will hear the story of Jesus walking on water. This miracle takes place at night on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had been teaching on the shore. Jesus makes his disciples get in the boat and set sail without him while he dismisses the crowds. Meanwhile, strong winds have come up on the lake and the boat the disciples are in is being battered by the waves. Storms are common on the Sea of Galilee because it is surrounded on nearly every side by mountains. While the disciples are in the boat surrounded by waves, Jesus walks across the water to them. The disciples are afraid when they first see him. They are awe-struck by the miraculous feat of Jesus walking on water.

Dive Deeper Together

Read John 6:16-25 in the Deep Blue Kids Bible or "Jesus Walks on Water" in the Deep Blue Bible Storybook.

OR

Read "Jesus Walks on Water": It was evening and Jesus had been teaching all day. Jesus' disciples got into their boat and began to cross the lake to Capernaum, but Jesus didn't go with them. During the night, strong winds came up on the lake and the water was getting rough. Jesus went to his disciples, walking across the lake. When the disciples saw Jesus walking across the lake, they were afraid. But Jesus spoke to them, "It's me. Don't be afraid." Suddenly the disciples' boat was safely on the shore. Jesus' disciples were amazed at Jesus' power.

Grow Stronger Together

Try a science experiment with your family. You will need a 16 oz. box of cornstarch, a pitcher of water, a large bowl, a cookie sheet, spoons, paper towels, and a plastic bag. Pour 2 cups of cornstarch into the bowl. Slowly add 1 cup of water to the cornstarch, stirring it as you go with a spoon. Stir until the mixture seems to alternate between being a solid and a liquid. Pour the mixture into a cookie sheet. Have the children notice how they can slide their fingers across the top of the mixture, but if they hold their fingers still their fingers will sink. Place the mixture in a plastic bag and throw it in the trash. Don't put it down the drain.

Pray Together

Share joys and concerns, and then say this prayer: Dear God, thank you for all the ways Jesus shows us your power. Amen.

Session 10

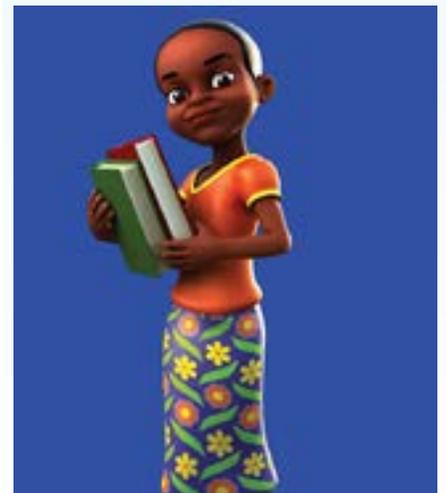
Unit 3: Who Then Is This?

BV: Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him! (Mark 4:41)

AP: Jesus Shows God's Power.

Jesus Walks on Water (John 6:16-25)

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The gospels contain many stories of Jesus healing people. In this week's story we hear of Jesus healing a man who is paralyzed. This man's friends brought him to Jesus to be healed. An important aspect of this story is that the paralyzed man could not have obtained healing by himself. He was paralyzed, unable to walk to where Jesus was teaching. It was the faith of his four friends that made the healing possible. And what faith and persistence they showed! First the friends decided to carry their friend to Jesus, presumably because they had heard that he was in town and had heard of the miracles and healings he had performed. When they got to the house and discovered that they couldn't reach Jesus, it would have been easy for them to give up. Instead, they looked for another way to get to Jesus. They went through the roof!

Dive Deeper Together

Read Mark 2:1-12 in the Deep Blue Kids Bible or "The Four Friends" in the Deep Blue Bible Storybook.

OR

Read "The Four Friends": This is a story about five friends. One of the friends was paralyzed. This means he could not walk. One day the friends heard that Jesus was in town teaching in a house. The four friends picked up the mat their friend was lying on and took him to see Jesus. So many people had come to hear Jesus that when the friends reached the house they couldn't get in. The four friends were determined to get their friend to Jesus so they carried him up onto the roof of the house. Once they were on the roof, the friends began dug a hole in the roof. The four friends lowered their friend on his mat through the hole so that he was in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw the faith of the paralyzed man's friends, he looked at the man and said, "Your sins are forgiven. Pick up your bed and walk." And the man did.

Grow Stronger Together

Make valentines with your children. They can be as simple or as complex as you like. Deliver or send the valentines to people you know or people listed in your church bulletin who are sick or hurt.

Pray Together

Share joys and concerns, and then say this prayer: Dear God, thank you for all the ways Jesus shows us your power. Amen.

Session 11

Unit 3: Who Then Is This?

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AP: Jesus Shows God's Power.

**The Four Friends
(Mark 2:1-12)**

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Throughout the gospels there are stories of Jesus performing miracles as well as stories of events showing that Jesus is the Son of God. The Bible story for today's lesson contains both of these elements. It is miraculous that Jesus was able to immediately calm a storm that just moments before had been threatening to capsize the disciples' boat.

After calming the storm, Jesus asks the disciples, "Why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?" It is as if he is asking them, "Did you forget I was with you?" or "Did you forget I was God's Son?" There are probably times when Jesus could ask the same question of us. Jesus teaches us about God's power and reminds us along with his disciples that we can trust God.

Dive Deeper Together

Read Mark 4:35-41 in the Deep Blue Kids Bible or "Jesus Calms the Storm" in the Deep Blue Bible Storybook.

OR

Read "Jesus Calms the Storm": One day Jesus and his disciples got in a boat to go across the lake. While they were crossing the lake, Jesus fell asleep. When they were in the middle of the lake, a storm came up. It began to rain and the wind began to blow. The wind became stronger and stronger and waves crashed against the boat. Jesus was in the back of the boat, sleeping through the storm. The disciples were very frightened. They went to Jesus and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning!" Jesus got up and said to the wind and the water, "Silence! Be still!" The wind immediately settled down and the water was calm. Jesus said to the disciples, "Why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?" The disciples were amazed and they said to each other, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!"

Grow Stronger Together

Make a storm-in-a-bottle with your children. Fill a clean plastic bottle about a third full of water. Add a few drops of food coloring. Screw on the cap and shake the bottle to mix the water and food coloring. Open the cap and pour cooking oil in to the top of the bottle. Tightly secure the cap. Turn the water back and forth to see the ocean waves in the storm.

Pray Together

Share joys and concerns, and then say this prayer: Dear God, thank

Session 12

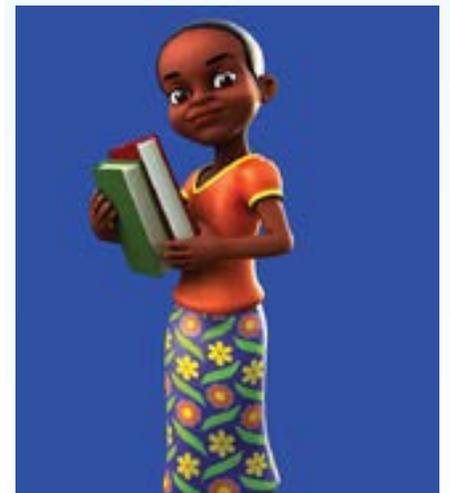
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Jesus Calms the Storm (Mark 4:35-41)

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A crowd had gathered around Jesus again. Jairus, a leader in the synagogue found Jesus. Jairus held a very important office which was usually given to wealthy people who could afford to provide or maintain the synagogue. Even with his status, he fell at Jesus' feet.

Jairus humbly asked Jesus to save his daughter who was very ill. In faith, Jairus asked Jesus to come and place his hands on his daughter so she could be healed. The laying on of hands was an action Jesus used frequently when he healed someone.

In spite of messengers coming to tell Jairus that his daughter was dead, Jesus went home with Jairus and did heal his daughter. After the young girl was healed, Jesus told her parents to give her something to eat. The simple act of eating showed the crowd that she was truly alive.

Dive Deeper Together

Read Mark 5:21-24; 35-43 in the Deep Blue Kids Bible or "Jairus's Daughter" in the Deep Blue Bible Storybook.

OR

Read "Jairus's Daughter": Jesus was teaching when one of the synagogue leaders, whose name was Jairus, approached Jesus. Jairus wanted Jesus to come to his house and heal his daughter. Jesus went with Jairus. While they were on their way, messengers came from Jairus' house and told Jairus that his daughter was dead. "Don't be afraid," said Jesus. "Just keep trusting." When they came to Jairus' house Jesus went into the room where the girl was. Jesus took the girl's hand and told her to get up. Suddenly, the girl got up and began to walk around. Jesus told Jairus to give her something to eat.

Grow Stronger Together

When Jesus healed Jairus's daughter he showed God's power. We may not be able to heal like Jesus did, but we can do lots of things to help others feel better. One important thing we can do for others is to pray. Practice "siren prayers" with your children. Each time you hear an ambulance or fire truck, quickly say a prayer asking God to take care of whoever is in need of emergency help.

Pray Together

Share joys and concerns, and then say this prayer: Dear God, thank you for all the ways Jesus shows us your power. Amen.

Session 13

Unit 3: Who Then Is This?

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Jairus's Daughter (Mark 5:21-24; 35-43)

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