

Get Ready!

Jesus Calms the Storm

By: Linda Carblom



Text

Luke 8:22-25

Key Quest Verse

“Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples (Luke 8:25).

Bible Background

The beautiful blue Sea of Galilee and its immediate areas provided the setting for many inspiring events and the major portion of Christ's ministry. Eighteen of His recorded miracles were performed in this vicinity – ten of these alone in the city of Capernaum. At least three famous wonders, involving the Sea of Galilee itself, showed His authority and power over forces of nature.

Here Jesus amazed professional fishermen by filling their nets with so many fish that they were ready to break (Luke 5:1-11).

Here the Lord walked on the surface of the water (Matthew 14:22-33). Peter temporarily walked with Jesus on the water as long as he had his eyes on the Lord. When Peter started looking at himself, he started to sink. “Looking at the Lord in Love” is a good definition of faith.

Here the Master calmed the storm and the sea (Mark 4:35-41). He commanded, “Peace, be still!” He then stilled the storm of fear and confusion within the terrified disciples.

When Christ rules as King of Kings and Prince of Peace in the future Kingdom, He will bring peace to the nations, peace on earth. Today, believers enjoy PEACE WITH GOD through Christ (Romans 5:1) and the PEACE OF GOD (Philippians 4:7), an inner peace that passes all understanding, when the Master of the Tempest dwells within their hearts.

Get Ready!**Lesson Quest**

What I want my students to:

Know: Jesus is powerful.

Feel: Safe in Jesus' care.

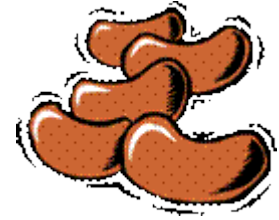
Do: Trust Jesus when they are afraid.

Leader's Devotion

Let's face it, life is full of storms. Even if you isolated yourself from the world, you would face the storm of loneliness. Thankfully, we have Jesus to anchor us through those times when we feel we're about to go under. It doesn't mean our problems will go away, but it does mean He will hold us tight until we get safely to the other side.

Notice in Luke 8:22, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." He didn't say, "Let's go out to the middle of the lake and drown." He had every intention of caring for the disciples. But, Jesus is the Son of God. He doesn't need to watch the clouds get dark and the waves start lapping around us. He can go to sleep in the back of the boat and then wake up just when we need Him the most. Nothing to worry about. He's got everything under control a simple command, "Peace! Be still."

May our faith be ever-growing so we, too, can rest in His perfect care through the storm.

Get Set!**Option A****HOMEMADE STORM**

Materials: Poster board, dried beans in a covered bowl

Procedure: Have you ever been in a big thunderstorm? How did it make you feel? Sometimes the thunder and lightning can be scary, can't it? But, what if you were the one in charge of the thunderstorm? If you could decide how much thunder, lightning and rain would come, it might not be so scary. Let's make our own thunderstorm. When we shake this poster board it sounds like thunder. Who wants to be in charge of thunder? This bowl of beans sounds like hail, the little ice pieces that sometimes fall in a storm. Who can make it hail when it's time? The rest of us will make the rest of the storm sounds. We can make wind sounds when we blow out with our mouths. When we pat our hands on our legs, it sounds like rain. First rain begins slowly, then gets harder (pat legs faster). Lead the children in a storm, beginning first with the wind, then the slow rain, the faster rain, the hail and thunder. You can even have a child flip the lights off and on quickly for a lightning effect.

Story Tie-In: Jesus and His disciples were caught in a big thunderstorm once. Let's see what happened.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Option B**I'M SCARED!**

Materials: None

Procedure: I have a secret to tell you. (Whisper.) I'm afraid of _____. Are you ever afraid of things? What is something you're afraid of?

Story Tie-In: In our Bible Story today, the disciples were very afraid. Let's listen to hear what they were afraid of.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Get Set!

Bible Story

Teacher Tip: Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles.

Materials: If you can get a rowboat, have your story time in the boat. If there are too many children to fit in the boat with you, have them gather around it while you tell the story from the boat, as Jesus often did. If you can't get a boat, you can make one from a refrigerator or appliance box. Just cut the top off the box lengthwise, so it's short enough for the children to climb into it.

One day, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." So, Jesus and His helpers got into a boat and started out across the water. As they sailed, the boat rocked Jesus to sleep.

But soon, dark clouds began to gather and the wind began to blow (make wind sound by blowing).

The boat began bouncing around on the waves. Rain began to fall (pat legs with hands). Lightning flashed and thunder roared. The waves got so high they splashed water into the boat. How do you think the disciples felt? Yes, they were afraid! Quickly, they woke Jesus up.

"Jesus!" they cried. "Help us! We're going to drown in this storm!" Jesus got up and said to the wind and the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind and the waves died down and the storm was gone. Can you do that? Can you tell the rain to stop falling or the wind to stop blowing and it obeys you? No, we can't. But, Jesus can because He's God's Son. Even the wind and the rain obey Him.

Then Jesus asked His disciples, "Where is your faith?" What do you think Jesus meant when He asked them that? He wanted them to trust Him to take care of them. He wants us to trust Him, too.

Go!**Rain Painting****ARTS/CRAFTS**

Materials: Water, tempera paint, paper plate

Quest Connection

The disciples and Jesus got rained on in our Bible Story today. Let's make a rain painting to remember that Jesus is with us even in the storms of life.

Procedure: Give each child a paper plate sprinkled with a few drops of tempera paint. Let children dip their hands in a bowl of water and splatter water on the paint. Talk about the designs they made.

Teacher Tip: This is a good rainy day activity. If it's raining, let the children take their paper plates outside and let real rain fall on them for about a minute to create the designs.

Close

Jesus can make beautiful things happen out of a rainy day, just like our pictures turned out pretty when the "rain" fell on them. Always trust in Jesus.

Go!**Where, Oh Where is My Faith?****MUSIC****Materials:** None**Quest Connection**

I know a song that reminds me of our Key Quest Verse. Do you remember what our verse is? Let's say it together. "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. This song will help us remember our verse.

Procedure: Sing this song to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" Let children shout the line, "I won't be afraid."

Where, oh where has my little faith gone? (Hold hand above eyes as if searching to the right.)

Oh where, oh where can it be? (Hold hand above eyes as if searching to the left.)

I will trust in Jesus, (Point up.)

I won't be afraid, (Shake head and pump fist in the air with each word.)

My faith is as big as can be! (Hold arms up high.)

Close

Let's say our Key Quest Verse again. When you're afraid, you can sing this song and remember our verse. You'll feel braver in no time!



Go!**Rain Sticks****CRAFT**

Materials: 1 empty toilet paper or paper towel roll per child, rice, plastic wrap, rubber bands

Quest Connection

In our Bible Story, Jesus and His disciples were caught in a big rain storm. We can make rain sounds with our rain sticks.

Procedure: Cover one end of the empty roll with plastic wrap and secure it with a rubber band. Let each child put three spoonfuls of rice into his roll. Cover the other end with plastic wrap and secure with a rubber band.

Close

Rain is a wonderful gift from God. It waters the plants and washes our world clean. Let's thank God for rain.



Go!

Boat Play**DRAMA**

Materials: A rowboat or a large appliance box cut in half lengthwise, so it's only about twelve to eighteen inches high

Quest Connection

Jesus and His disciples went out in a boat. Let's act out the story of what happened when they were on the lake.

Procedure: Choose one person to be Jesus sleeping in the boat. Let the rest of the children be disciples. Tell the story and let them act it out. Encourage them to show you their happy faces at the beginning of the story, then their scared faces when the storm comes. Then see if one of them can tell the story while you act as a disciple.

Close

Jesus calmed the storm. The disciples didn't need to be afraid. They only needed to trust in Jesus. When we trust Jesus, it's called "faith." Each time we trust Him, our faith grows bigger and stronger. Let's pray for our faith to grow big and strong.

Go!**Storm Picture****ARTS/CRAFTS**

Materials: Paper or poster board, watercolor paints, cotton balls, yellow rick-rack, rice, glue sticks

Quest Connection

Jesus is so powerful even the wind and rain obey Him. Let's make a picture of a storm.

Procedure: Give each child a piece of paper or poster board. Let them paint storm colors on it. Give them cotton balls to make clouds and have them paint them black. Glue on yellow rick-rack for lightning bolts. Using glue sticks, spread glue all over the picture. Stick rice in the glue as rain or hail.

Close

The disciples were afraid of the storm. What should we do when we're afraid? We can pray. He can calm us just like the storm.



Go!**Discovery Table****WATER TABLE**

Materials: Large tub(s) of water with plastic boats

Quest Connection

In our Bible Story, Jesus and his disciples went out on the lake in a boat. At first the lake was calm and smooth. But then the storm came and the waves got big and bumpy.

Procedure: At our Discovery Table today we have water with boats in it. See how smooth and calm the water is? But, when we blow on the water and make wind, the water gets waves in it and our boat begins to move. See if you can make the boats move without touching the water.

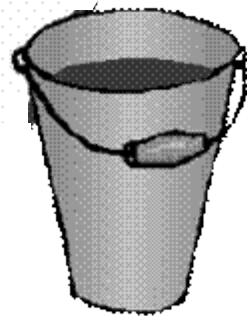
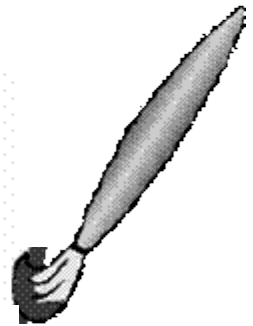
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Jesus always takes care of us. We can trust God and Jesus to protect us.



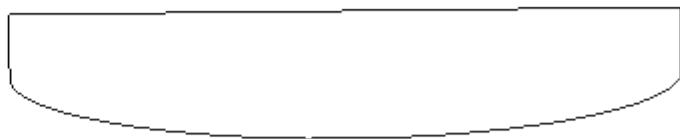
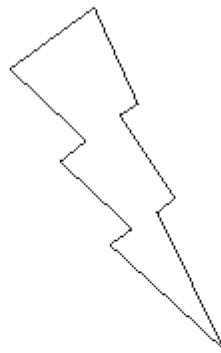
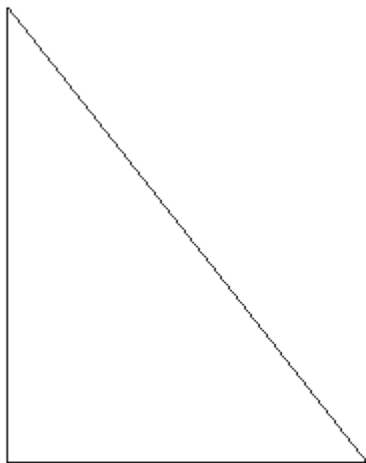
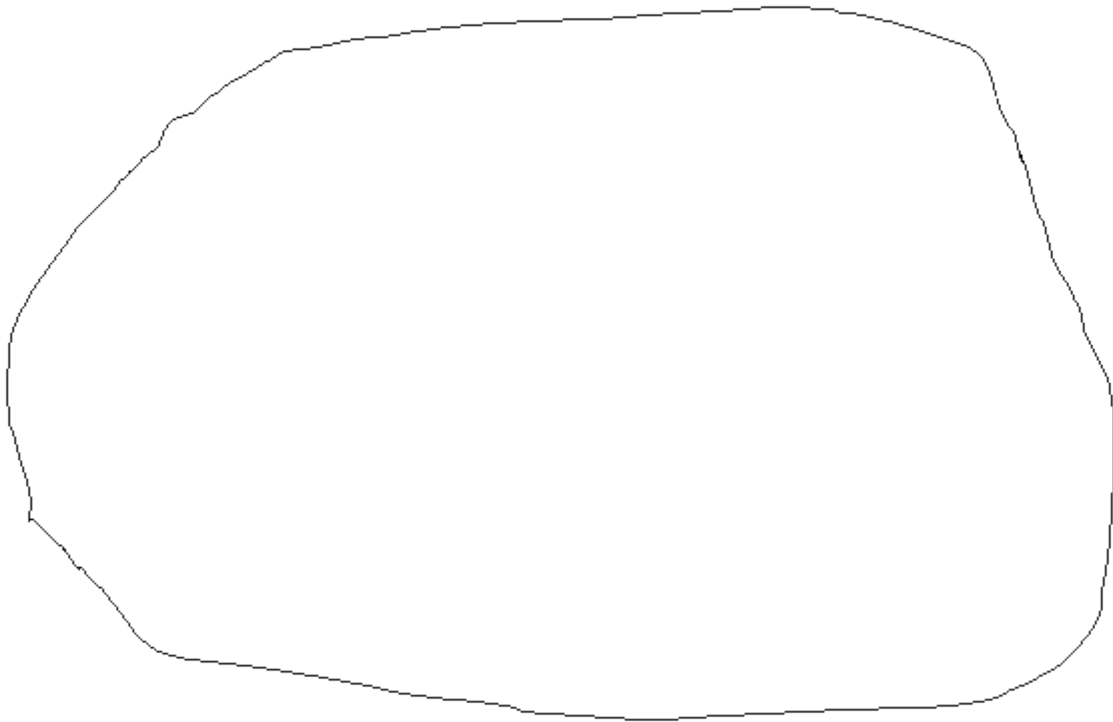
Journal Page

When I'm afraid I can trust in Jesus. Paint a two-part picture. On the top part, use colors that show how you feel when you're afraid. On the bottom part, use colors that show how you feel when you trust in God and Jesus.

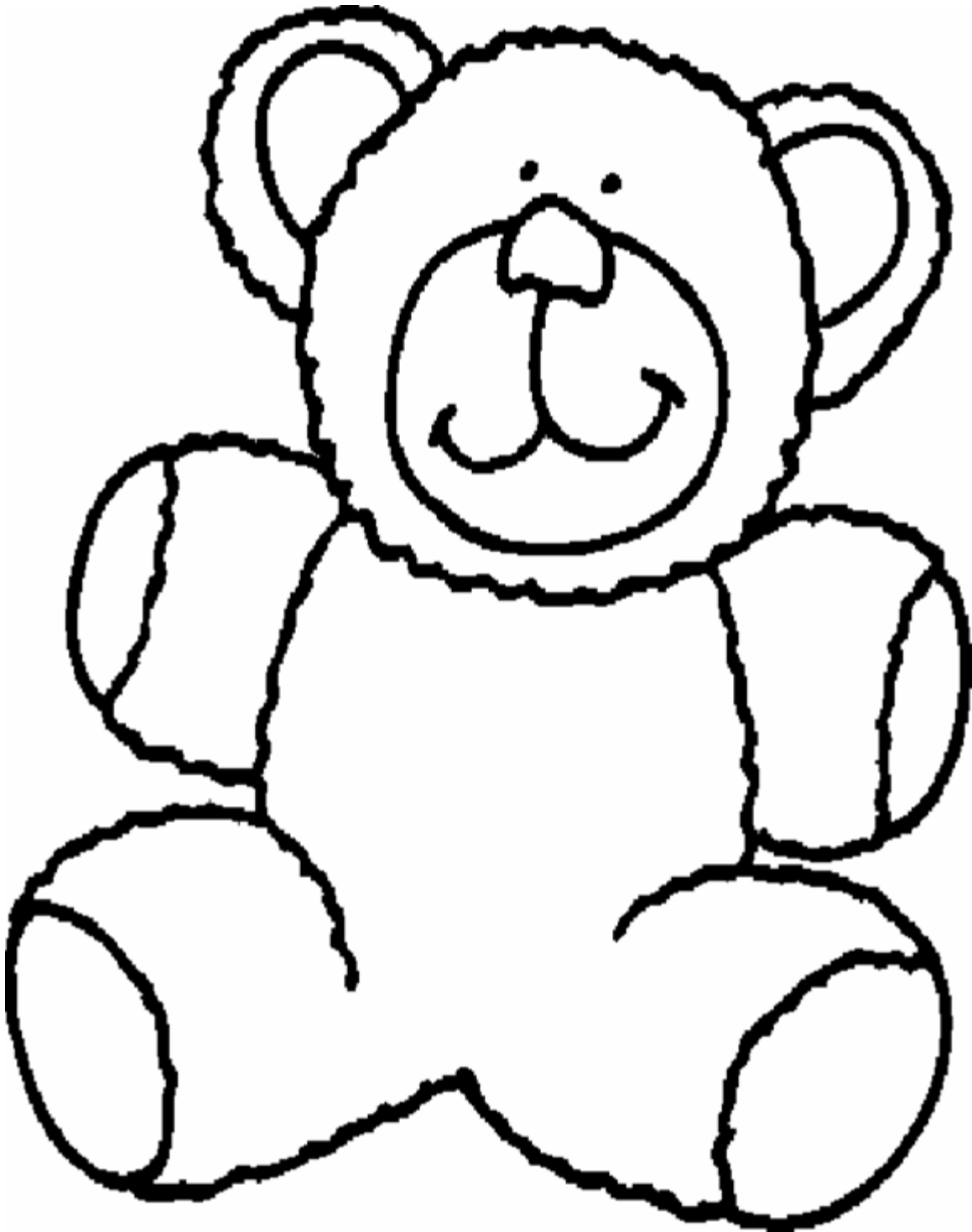


Cut out the shapes at the bottom of the page and make them into Jesus' boat. Glue it into the lake below. Then, cut out the lightning and draw dark clouds in the sky to make a stormy day.

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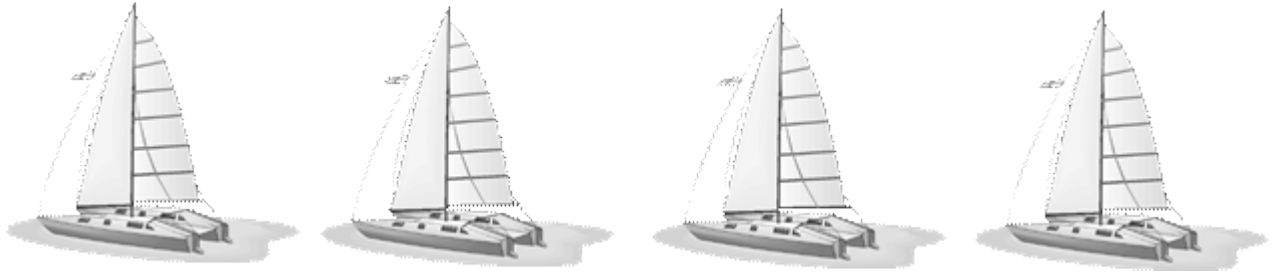
Color the picture below.



I am safe with Jesus, just like I feel when I hug my teddy bear!

“Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples (Luke 8:25).

How many boats do you see below? Write the number in the blank.



How many clouds do you see below? Write the number in the blank.



How many pictures of Jesus do you see below? Write the number in the blank.

