

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Calmed a Storm

Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8

Jesus spent all day teaching crowds of people near the Sea of Galilee. That evening, Jesus wanted to cross over to the other side of the sea.

So Jesus and His disciples left the crowds. They got into a boat and began sailing. Some of the people from the crowds followed in their own boats. While Jesus and His disciples traveled, Jesus fell asleep on a cushion at the back of the boat.

All of a sudden, a storm came. The wind was strong, and the waves crashed into the boat. Water was coming into the boat, and the disciples were afraid! Many of the disciples were fishermen. They had survived storms on the sea before, but this storm was different. It was so strong. If the water kept coming in the boat, the boat would sink. Surely they would all drown!

The disciples looked to Jesus for help, but Jesus was still fast asleep at the back of the boat. He didn't seem to even notice the storm. Did Jesus care that they were about to sink into the sea?

The disciples woke up Jesus. "Lord, save us!" they said. "We are going to die!"

Jesus opened His eyes and saw that His friends were afraid. He got up and spoke to the wind. Then Jesus said to the sea, "Silence! Be still!"

At the sound of Jesus' voice, the wind stopped blowing and the waves stopped crashing. Everything was calm. The disciples were safe.

Jesus looked at His disciples and asked, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" Did the disciples not trust Jesus to take care of them?

The disciples were amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"

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CHRIST CONNECTION

JESUS' DISCIPLES KNEW JESUS WAS A GOOD MAN AND A GOOD TEACHER. BUT WHEN JESUS CALMED THE WIND AND THE WAVES, HE SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE IS ALSO GOD. GOD RULES THE SEA AND STILLS ITS WAVES. (PSALM 89:9)

CALMING JARS

SUPPLIES: BOTTLED WATER, FUNNEL, CUP, MEASURING CUP AND SPOON, GLITTER GLUE

GIVE YOUR CHILD A BOTTLED WATER AND A CUP. INSTRUCT THEM TO POUR THE WATER INTO A SEPARATE CUP, LEAVING ABOUT 1/4 CUP OF WATER IN THE BOTTLE. INVITE THEM TO SQUEEZE ABOUT 1/4 CUP OF GLITTER GLUE INTO THEIR BOTTLES.

HELP THEM USE FUNNELS TO ADD MORE WATER TO THE BOTTLE, LEAVING ABOUT 1/2 INCH OF SPACE AT THE TOP. LET THEM ADD 1 OR 2 TEASPOONS OF GLITTER TO THE BOTTLE. USE HOT GLUE OR DUCT TAPE TO SECURE THE LID TO THE BOTTLE. SHAKE WELL.

TELL KIDS THAT WHEN THEY ARE FEELING AFRAID OR ANXIOUS, THEY CAN SHAKE THE BOTTLE. AS THEY WATCH THE GLITTER SETTLE, THEY CAN TAKE DEEP BREATHS AND PRAY, ASKING GOD TO GIVE THEM PEACE.

SAY • AS THE STORM RAGED, JESUS' DISCIPLES WERE TERRIFIED. JESUS' DISCIPLES KNEW JESUS WAS A GOOD MAN AND A GOOD TEACHER. BUT WHEN JESUS CALMED THE WIND AND THE WAVES, HE SHOWED HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE IS ALSO GOD. GOD RULES THE SEA AND STILLS ITS WAVES. JESUS CALMED A STORM TO SHOW THE DISCIPLES HE IS GOD. WHEN LIFE FEELS OUT OF CONTROL, WE CAN TURN TO THE ONE WHO IS ALWAYS IN CONTROL. JESUS IS POWERFUL, AND HE LOVES US.

MAKE IT RAIN! SUPPLIES: NONE

EXPLAIN TO YOUR KIDS THAT YOU WILL GIVE THEM INSTRUCTIONS. YOUR FIRST CHILD SHOULD BEGIN. THEN THE SECOND AND SO ON UNTIL EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY IS PERFORMING THE ACTION. THEN PROMPT THE YOUR FIRST CHILD TO BEGIN A NEW ACTION. KIDS WILL JOIN IN ONE BY ONE. COMPLETE ALL THE ACTIONS TO SIMULATE THE SOUND OF A STORM.

STEPS: 1. RUB YOUR HANDS TOGETHER; 2. SNAP YOUR FINGERS; 3. CLAP HANDS IN A RANDOM PATTERN; 4. PAT HANDS ON LEGS; 5. STOMP FEET; 6. PAT HANDS ON LEGS WHILE STOMPING FEET; 7. STOMP FEET; 8. PAT HANDS ON LEGS; 9. CLAP HANDS IN A RANDOM PATTERN; 10. SNAP YOUR FINGERS; 11. RUB YOUR HANDS TOGETHER; 12. BE STILL.

SAY • MANY OF JESUS' DISCIPLES WERE EXPERIENCED FISHERMEN, BUT IN THE STORY WE HEARD TODAY, THEY ENCOUNTERED A POWERFUL STORM ON THE WATER AND DIDN'T THINK THEY WOULD SURVIVE. HOWEVER, THEY FORGOT HAD THE SON OF GOD WITH THEM IN THE BOAT. WHEN JESUS CALMED THE STORM, MANY OF HIS DISCIPLES REALIZED, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THAT HE TRULY WAS THE SON OF GOD!

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BIG PICTURE QUESTION

WHY DID JESUS PERFORM MIRACLES?

JESUS PERFORMED MIRACLES TO GLORIFY GOD, TO SHOW HE IS THE SON OF GOD, AND TO CARE FOR PEOPLE.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER - YOUNGER KIDS

DISTRIBUTE A SHEET OF PAPER TO YOUR CHILD.

ASK THEM TO WRITE ABOUT OR DRAW A
PICTURE TO

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

WHAT DOES THIS STORY TEACH ME ABOUT GOD
OR ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

WHAT DOES THIS STORY TEACH ME ABOUT
MYSELF?

WHOM CAN I TELL ABOUT THIS STORY?

KEY PASSAGE

LORD MY GOD, YOU HAVE DONE MANY THINGS - YOUR
WONDEROUS WORKS AND YOUR PLANS FOR US; NONE CAN
COMPARE WITH YOU. IF I WERE TO REPORT AND SPEAK OF
THEM, THEY ARE MORE THAN CAN BE TOLD.

PSALM 40:5

JOURNAL AND PRAYER - OLDER KIDS

DISTRIBUTE A SHEET OF PAPER TO YOUR CHILD.

GUIDE THEM TO THINK ABOUT AND ANSWER THESE
QUESTIONS:

WHAT DOES THIS STORY TEACH ME ABOUT GOD OR THE
GOSPEL?

WHAT DOES THE STORY TEACH ME ABOUT MYSELF?

ARE THERE ANY COMMANDS IN THIS STORY TO OBEY?

HOW ARE THEY FOR GOD'S GLORY AND MY GOOD?

ARE THERE ANY PROMISES IN THIS STORY TO REMEMBER? HOW
DO THEY HELP ME TRUST AND LOVE GOD?

HOW DOES THIS STORY HELP ME TO LIVE ON MISSION BETTER?