



JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Toddler • August 2025

Concept

Jesus is stronger than a giant storm.

Goal

Children will learn that because Jesus is God, He is stronger than a storm.

Passage

Matthew 8:23-27

Key Verse: "Even the wind and sea obey Him!" Matthew 8:27

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Laminated, magnet-backed pictures</i>• <i>Read Aloud Bible Stories Vol. 1, Ella K. Lindvall</i>• <i>The Bible In Pictures For Toddlers, Ella K. Lindvall, pp. 106-107</i>• <i>The Beginner's Bible, Karyn Henley,</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ <i>Wind and Waves OR</i>◦ <i>Jesus Calms the Storm</i> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6' parachute	<p>Craft #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printed boat with disciples (without Jesus)• Jesus stickers• Crayons <p>Craft #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardstock printed Jesus calms the storm circles• Craft sticks• Masking tape• Crayons <p>Craft #3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printed boat with disciples and Jesus coloring page• Crayons <p>Craft #4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark 4:35-41 coloring page• Crayons

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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God gives us evidence of His existence in many ways and, likewise, Jesus provided evidence that attested to His identity as God's Son, God incarnate, the Messiah. The many signs and miracles He performed, apart from demonstrating His love and compassion for people, authenticated His claims of deity.

The disciples were eyewitnesses to the works of Jesus Christ. In Matthew 8:23-27, the disciples and Jesus departed from the crowds after a tiring day. The disciples had seen Jesus do amazing miracles that day. They got into a boat to cross the sea. Jesus fell asleep. Some of the disciples were experienced fishermen and were not afraid to navigate on the sea until a "great" storm arose. This storm was very strong and powerful, able to capsize the boat. They were very afraid and cried out to Jesus to help them. Jesus says, "Why are you timid, you men of little faith?" Then He commanded the storm to stop. The disciples were amazed at how the wind and waves obeyed Him. Who would have such great power but God Himself? Once again Jesus showed the disciples who He was by giving them clear evidence.

"... Christ's ministry of power is another link in the already strong chain of proof of His deity. What gained for Him the unquestioning obedience and unfaltering loyalty of His followers? If He be not Son of God, how explaining the fact that after two millennia there are millions who would gladly surrender life itself rather than deny Him? The transformed lives of Christians are an eloquent and ever-present witness to the deity of the person from whom the transforming power proceeds"[1] As you prepare this lesson, consider the difference it makes to you, personally, that Jesus is God. Ask the Spirit to show you the incredible significance of His deity.

[1] The Incomparable Christ, J. Oswald Sanders, © 1971, Moody Press, p. 60.

Prayer

Pray for the children, w/your team before class, during the week.
Pray simple short prayers with the children.

Lesson Lg. Group

Introduction

Boys and girls, come sit in my boat and help me make a rainstorm. (Softly pat your legs, making the sound of light rain.) Oh, I think it's going to start raining harder. (Pat legs harder, encouraging the children to do the same.) Oh, I hear some thunder. (Clap your hands.) Oh, it's just raining now. It's slowing down. (Slow your patting, then stop.) It's time for our hands to rest in our laps, while we take a ride. Is everybody aboard? Today we are going to pretend to ride in this boat while I tell our lesson about a storm that came while Jesus was in a boat with his friends.

Suggestions:

- Read Aloud from one of the provided children's bibles
- Act out the story as you tell it and have the children participate. Blow and make wind noises, pretend to row in the boat, wipe water from waves off face and arms, act scared, sit cross-legged put arms on the floor to your sides and rock back and forth as you tell about the waves tossing the boat.

Main Points:

- Jesus was very tired and He slept. (His friends rowed the boat. Row and encourage children to make rowing motions with their hands.)
- The sky was dark and the wind blew strong. The waves got bigger and bigger.
- Jesus' friends were afraid. Are you afraid when it storms?
- Jesus' friends knew that Jesus is stronger than a giant storm.
- Jesus told that storm to "Hush, Be still!" The wind and rain stopped and it was calm.
- Jesus' friends were amazed! "Even the wind and sea obey Him."
- Jesus made the whole world, the wind and the waves, too.

Let's talk to God. Let's thank Him that He is stronger than a giant storm. He can take care of us.

Activities Lg. Group

- **Drama – Role Play**
 - **Instructions:** Act out the story a couple of times with three or four children being disciples and one being Jesus.
- **Music – "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"**
 - **Instructions:** Have children sit as if in a boat and sing the song. Have them pretend they are rowing the boat, going over waves, being splashed with water.

Activities Continued

Craft #1

- **Parachute**

- **Instructions:** Have children hold a handle on the parachute and move it up and down to simulate wind.

Boat & Jesus stickers

Instructions: Give each child a printed boat and a Jesus sticker. Write their name on the paper. Put the sticker on the picture and color it. As the children work, discuss the following with them: What did Jesus do? He made the storm stop. Jesus is stronger than a giant storm. He can take care of us no matter what the problem is.

Craft #2

Boat & Jesus “puppet”

Instructions: Give each child a printed circle. Write their name on the circle. Have children color the picture. Tape the craft stick to the back. As the children work, discuss the following with them: What did Jesus do? He made the storm stop. Jesus is stronger than a giant storm. He can take care of us no matter what the problem is.

Craft #3

Boat & Jesus coloring page

Instructions: Give each child a printed page. Write their name on the paper and color the picture. As the children work, discuss the following with them: What did Jesus do? He made the storm stop. Jesus is stronger than a giant storm. He can take care of us no matter what the problem is.

Craft #4

Jesus in Boat with Disciples coloring page (Mark 4:35-41)

Instructions: Give each child a printed page. Write their name on the paper and color the picture. As the children work, discuss the following with them: What did Jesus do? He made the storm stop. Jesus is stronger than a giant storm. He can take care of us no matter what the problem is.