



JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Preschool-K • #NT9 • January 28, 2024

Concept

Jesus is God. He is even stronger than a storm.

Goal

Children will learn that because Jesus is God, He is even stronger than a storm. He told the wind and rain to stop and they did. The children will learn that if they ask, Jesus will always help them.

Passage

Matthew 8:23-27

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

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Activity Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>My First Study Bible, Paul J. Loth</i> <p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long strips of Velcro• 3 head coverings with elastic• A broom or yard stick• Box fan or hairdryer• Spray bottle filled with water	<p>Learning Activity #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Even the winds and sea obey Jesus" Matthew 8:27" printed sheets, 1/child• Jesus labels, 3 labels/child• Markers

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the shaded 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.

Set Up

Incorporation Lg. Group

Introduction Lg. Group

Lesson Lg. Group

The day of class – Use Velcro to create the outline of an imaginary boat in which all of the children will sit. Make sure you build the boat close to an outlet for the hairdryer/wind.

Activity Stations:

- **Read Aloud – "Jesus Calms the Storm"**
 - **Instructions:** Read the story from My First Study Bible, pp. 347-353.
- **Music – "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"**
 - **Instructions:** Have children sit in boat outline and sing the song. Have them pretend they are rowing the boat, going over waves, being splashed with water. Children can take turns wearing the head coverings to pretend they are disciples during Jesus' time.

Come over and climb in our boat. We're going to go for a ride. Are you ever afraid? What frightens you? Have you ever gone to a strange new place or met a new person who frightened you? Maybe they asked you a question, and you just didn't know what to say. Or maybe you are afraid of a big animal at the zoo! What kind of face do you make when you are afraid? (Practice making scared faces.) You want to know what I'm sometimes afraid of? I'm sometimes afraid of storms, especially a thunderstorm! Storms can be pretty scary.

When you are afraid, what (who) makes you feel better? (A bear, blanket, parents, etc., do.) God wants us to tell Him when we are afraid, too. He is in control and He will be with us! One day some of Jesus' friends were afraid of a storm. Listen and find out how Jesus helped them.

Role Play

Instructions: Use the broom as an oar. Have one teacher tell the story and another teacher will attend to the "wind," "lightning," and spray of water. Choose a child to be Jesus to pretend to be asleep in the front of the boat.

Let's pretend that we are all Jesus' friends, and that we are in a boat. (Indicate the boat's outline.) One day Jesus and His friends were taking a boat ride across a big lake. (Pretend to row.) It had been a long day, and Jesus was very tired. He fell asleep in the front of the boat. While He was asleep, the sky became dark. (Flick lights.) The wind began to blow (Make wind noises as a group). And the wind blew stronger and stronger. (Turn on fan or hairdryer so that it blows on the children.) And the waves got bigger and bigger and splashed onto the boat. (Spray water lightly over or toward children.)

Do you think Jesus' friends were calm? NO! Jesus' friends were really scared! Let's see your "scared faces."

Why were they so afraid? Right! The wind continued to blow, and the water kept splashing into the boat. (Spray water again.) One of the friends woke Jesus and yelled, "Help us!" Jesus saw that they were really scared.

What do you think Jesus did then? He stood up (teacher stands) and said, "Hush! Be still!!!" Who was He talking to? (He was talking to the wind.) The wind stopped (turn off fan), and it became perfectly calm. (Allow for a few seconds of silence.) His friends were amazed! They asked each other, "Who is this? Even the winds and sea obey Him!"

Will the wind stop if you tell it to? Why did the wind stop when Jesus told it to? Jesus is God. He is even stronger than a storm. God made the whole world, which means He made the wind, too. Jesus can control the wind because He is God. Do you remember what His friends said? "Who is this? Even the winds and sea obey Him!" Because He was able to stop the winds, Jesus showed His friends that He was very powerful, not just an ordinary man. They knew that Jesus is God. He is even stronger than a storm.

Jesus showed His friends that He could take care of them. Do you know that Jesus loves each one of you, too? He wants you to be His friend. He wants you to let Him know when you are scared, confused or sick. He can be with you and show you His love. This is what He does for everyone who asks Jesus to come into his or her heart. You can ask Jesus to be your special friend. You can talk to Jesus about that right now or maybe at home with your mom or dad.

Bible Review:

- Why were Jesus' friends afraid? (They were afraid of the storm.)
- What was Jesus doing when the storm started? (He was sleeping.)
- What did Jesus do? (He stopped the storm.)
- Why was Jesus able to stop the storm? (He is God's son.) Jesus is God. He is even stronger than a storm.

Let's pray and thank Him that Jesus is God. He is even stronger than a storm. Because Jesus is strong, we don't have to be afraid. Let's thank Him that He loves us and wants to be with us.

Let's make a craft to remind us that Jesus is God. He is even stronger than a storm. He wants to be our friend and be with us all the time. We can tell Him when we are scared and He will help us.

**Learning
Activity#1
Lg. Group**

Transition

**Learning
Activity#2
Sm. Group**

Craft – "Even the winds and sea obey Jesus"

- **Instructions:** Give each child a printed page and 3 Jesus labels. Color the pictures and put a Jesus label in each row next to the picture. Discuss with the children what is going on in each picture – do any of these things happen to you sometimes? Is Jesus with you? How can you know He is with you? (Ask Him.)

If you would like to pretend you are in the boat with Jesus you can do that now.

Drama – Role Play

Instructions: Act out the story a couple of times with three or four children being disciples and one being Jesus, using the boat outline. Other kids can be wind and waves.

Talk about how God is strong enough to take care of us and wants to help us and to be our friend. Has Jesus ever helped you when you were scared, angry, etc.?

NT#9 Jesus Calms the Storm Bible Guy Skit

Bible Guy is sitting on the beach with a blanket, cooler sunglasses, etc,

Ahh! This is what I love ...relaxing on the beach with a good book.

[looking concerned]

Hmm... starting to look a little cloudy over there. Maybe it will blow over...

[goes back to reading his book]

[make wind sounds, pretend hat blows off, etc]

Boy, the wind sure has picked up. Maybe we are going to get a storm after all. These waves have gotten huge. I better move my stuff. Now it's starting to rain.

[Open umbrella. Keep making wind sounds, act as if it's hard to walk, looking off stage and cupping a hand to his ear]

WHAT?! [to kids] My friend is shouting something to me, but I can't quite hear him.

[shouting toward offstage, again] WHAT DID YOU SAY? A BOAT? THERE'S A BOAT OUT THERE?!

[to kids] Oh boy, I would not want to be out there today. These waves are big enough to sink a boat. I'd be really scared, wouldn't you? I hope those people make it in to shore okay.

[shouting toward offstage again] WHAT? YES, I KNOW IT'S RAINING! YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS IS A BAD STORM... O.K. I'M COMING. JUST LET ME GET MY STUFF.

[As he gathers his things, the storm suddenly stops. He looks around in amazement]

Whuh? Huh? How can that be? A minute ago I thought I was going to blow away and now it's perfectly calm...no wind...no rain. The water is perfectly still. I've never seen anything like this! Oh. Hey! I wonder if that boat made it back to shore. I can't see anything from here. Let me go ask my friend. [EXIT]

[ENTER with binoculars]

These things are great! [put them up to eyes as if looking out over the water] I can see that boat my friend told me about. He said he was watching it the whole time. He said it looked like it was about to sink and all the guys on it were scared, except one guy who was asleep!

[take binoculars down and shrug]

I couldn't sleep through something like that could you? So, anyway... I guess the other guys woke him up. He got up and looked like he was talking to the water. My friend says that's when everything calmed down.

[look through binoculars again]

Hey, wait a minute! They're a lot closer now...I think I recognize that guy... it's Jesus!

[take binoculars down]

Some people say that Jesus is God. What do you think? If he was able to make the wind and the waves obey him, he must be God! He's stronger than the storm! He helped his friends and I bet he would help us, too if we needed him and asked him. Do you think he would?

[look into binoculars]

Wow! They're almost to shore. I'm going to go help them pull their boat in...gotta go!

[EXIT]