



2011

Go And Make Disciples

The Cross and Beyond

Lesson 34: Jesus Walks on Water

Scripture

Matthew 14:22-33
 Mark 6:45-52
 John 6:15-21

Memory Verse

I look up to the hills.
 Where does my help
 come from? My help
 comes from the
 Lord. He is the
 Maker of heaven
 and earth.
 Psalm 121:1, 2 (NirV)

Lesson Goals

Understand that Peter's faith was small, but he got out of the boat.

Understand that Jesus is able to save us.

The following is a summary of the Bible story to help supplement your preparation. In your personal study time, use this summary as a guide, and make notes to help you remember your plans for the lesson. Please do **NOT** read to the children.

In our last lesson, we learned about a large group of people who ate what started out as a very small amount of food. Everyone ate because Jesus multiplied the food. We learned that “nothing is impossible for God!” (Luke 1:37 CEV)

The people were amazed at what they saw and Jesus knew that they wanted to “force Him to be their king.” (John 6:15 NirV) “Right away Jesus made the disciples get into the boat. He had them go on ahead of Him to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Then He sent the crowd away.” (Matthew 14:22 NirV) Jesus climbed one of the mountains there that surround the Sea of Galilee. Jesus wanted to be by Himself to pray. Do you remember that this is exactly why Jesus and His disciples had gone to that side of the Sea of Galilee that morning? Jesus had learned about the death of His cousin, John the Baptist, and He wanted to pray.

Jesus stayed there, alone on the mountain, until late in the night. By this time, the disciple’s boat was already a long way from land. Jesus could see that a storm had come up on the Sea of Galilee. The wind was blowing so hard that the waves had been churned up and they were pounding the boat. “[Jesus] could see that the disciples were struggling hard, because they were rowing against the wind. (Mark 6:48 CEV)

At about four o’clock in the morning, “Jesus went out to the disciples.” (Matthew 14:25a NirV) How do you think He went to them? Let’s think it through. How did Jesus and the disciples get to that side of the Sea of Galilee? They all came together in one boat. How did the huge crowd of people get there? They walked around the sea. So, if the disciples took the only boat, how in the world could Jesus go to them? The Bible tells us that “He walked on the lake.” (Matthew 14:25b NirV) Amazing! How is that possible? The Bible doesn’t tell us, but we learned something in our last lesson that should help us. What was our memory verse? “Nothing is impossible for God!” (Luke 1:37 CEV) If Jesus, with God, could create water in the first place, then why shouldn’t Jesus be able to walk on it whenever He wants to ?

When Jesus was about to pass the disciples, they “saw Jesus walking on the water, they thought He was a ghost, and they started screaming.” (Mark 6:49 CEV)

Jesus told them, “Be brave! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” (Matthew 14:27 NirV)

Then, Peter asked, “Lord, Is it really You? If it is, tell me to come out to you on the water.” So Jesus said, “Come on, then.”

Application

Our memory verse says, "I look up to the hills.

Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord. He is the Maker of heaven and earth. (Psalm 121:1, 2 NIV)

When you are afraid, where do you look for help? Do you know that you can run to God. He will help you. If He can make heaven and earth, nothing is too hard for Him!

You should run to God first because of the problem you have with sin. You see, the Bible tells us that you and I are sinners. (Rom 3:23) It also says that we deserve to die because of that sin. (Rom 6:23) There is good news, though. While we were still sinning, Jesus died for us! (Rom 5:8) If you will run to Him and tell Him that you believe He sent Jesus to die for you, that Jesus rose again, and that you want Him to be in control of your life, God will forgive you and draw you close to Him in a wonderful friendship.

Then, when you face something scary, you will know where to turn!

"So Peter got out of the boat. He walked on water toward Jesus." (Matthew 14:29b NIV) But when Peter took his eyes off of Jesus, when he noticed the wind and the waves around him, he was afraid. Peter began to sink, and when he did he cried out to Jesus, "Save me, Lord!"

"Right away Jesus reached out His hand and caught him. 'Your faith is so small!' He said. 'Why did you doubt me?'" (Matthew 14:31 NIV)

When Peter and Jesus climbed into the boat, the wind died down. The disciples were amazed at what they had seen. They still didn't completely understand what Jesus had done with the loaves and fishes, but they worshipped Jesus and said, "You really are the Son of God!" (Matthew 14:33 NIV) And almost immediately, the boat reached shore at the harbor near Capernaum and Bethsaida.

Preparing for the Next Lesson

The Disciples' Faith is Tested-4,000 Fed



Preschool Lesson

Teachers:

Bring a blue tarp, blanket, or sheet. Sit on this while sharing the lesson.

Right after Jesus fed the huge crowd, He made the disciples get into the boat and go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Then Jesus sent the crowd away. Jesus climbed one of the mountains there that surround the Sea of Galilee. Jesus wanted to be by Himself to pray.

Jesus stayed there, alone on the mountain, until late in the night. By this time, the disciple's boat was already a long way from land. Jesus could see that a storm had come up on the Sea of Galilee. The wind was blowing so hard that the waves had been churned up and they were pounding the boat. "[Jesus] could see that the disciples were struggling hard, because they were rowing against the wind. (Mark 6:48 CEV)

At about four o'clock in the morning, "Jesus went out to the disciples." (Matthew 14:25a NIV) How do you think He went to them? Let's think it through. How did Jesus and the disciples get to that side of the Sea of Galilee? They all came together in one boat. How did the huge crowd of people get there? They walked around the sea. So, if the disciples took the only boat, how in the world could Jesus go to them? The Bible tells us that "He walked on the lake." (Matthew 14:25b NIV) Amazing! How is that possible? The Bible doesn't tell us, but we learned something in our last lesson that should help us. What was our memory verse? "Nothing is impossible for God!" (Luke 1:37 CEV) If Jesus, with God, could create water in the first place, then why shouldn't Jesus be able to walk on it whenever He wants to ?

When Jesus was about to pass the disciples, they saw Him walking on the water. They thought He was a ghost, and they started screaming.

Jesus said, "Be brave! It is I. Don't be afraid." (Matthew 14:27 NIV)

Then, Peter asked, "Lord, Is it really You? If it is, tell me to come out to you on the water." So Jesus said, "Come on, then." Peter got out of the boat and walked on water toward Jesus, but when Peter took his eyes off of Jesus he was afraid. Peter began to sink. Then he cried out to Jesus, "Save me, Lord!"

"Right away Jesus reached out His hand and caught him. When Peter and Jesus climbed into the boat, the wind died down. The disciples were amazed. They worshipped Jesus and said, "You really are the Son of God!" (Matthew 14:33 NIV) And almost immediately, the boat reached shore at the harbor near Capernaum and Bethsaida.



Activities

- Memory Verse Activity - Make a memory verse poster with mountains. Be sure to review the memory verse as students are working.
- Encourage your students to fill out the journal/note page found on page 8. This can be used during the story to help focus your students or after the story as a review.
- Bring blue gelatin for a snack today.
- Reenact the lesson.
- Sing “With Jesus in Your Boat,” “Have Faith in God,” or another song related to the lesson.
- Listen to “Voice of Truth,” by Casting Crowns.
- Find the Sea of Galilee on a map of Israel. Find a topographical map, if possible. Discuss the following in light of the lesson. “The Sea of Galilee is the lowest freshwater lake on earth at approximately 210 m (700 ft) below sea level. . . . The Sea of Galilee is known for its violent storms, which can come up suddenly and be life-threatening for any on its waters. These tempests are caused by the situation of the lake in the Jordan Rift with steep hills on all sides. The cooler air masses from the surrounding mountains collide with the warm air in the lake’s basin. Winds sometimes funnel through the east-west-oriented valleys in the Galilean hill country and rush down the western hillsides of the lake. The most violent storms, however, are caused by the fierce winds which blow off the Golan Heights from the east.”*

*Bolen, Todd. *Jesus and the Sea of Galilee*. March 6, 2009.
<http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2009/03/Jesus-and-the-Sea-of-Galilee.aspx#Article>

I look up to the hills.
Where does my help
come from?

**MY HELP
COMES FROM
THE LORD.**

He is the Maker
of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1, 2

Trace the letters.

JESUS

WALKED

ON WATER

Focus on the Story

○
Story Title:

Scripture References:

Main Characters:

Story Summary:

When?

○
Where?

What?

How?



Word Search

K Y O N R W O S U L W N R F M
C H J G N S O F S H A Y E O Y
E E E I S H E N N E N D R R T
V W S E L I I C S A D F V E N
G L U N C L U Y O V S G B K Y
E I S A C O J T T E A R R A L
S T V N S O R H M N S E Y M P
R S T E I K Y O L A U B D E I
U O I N T U C E V N O S A H T
O D T S P P R E R D H Y Y T L
Y N S W L E A R F E T A E S U
L S I E K R E N M A H F L I M
T T H E L O R D K R V W E E L
O Y S L L I H E H T I A D H W
M L O A V E P L E H Y M S H F

Find the underlined words from the memory verse in the puzzle above.

I look up to the hills. Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord. He is the Maker of heaven and earth.
Psalm 121:1, 2



Word Search

K	Y	O	N	R	W	O	S	U	L	W	N	R	F	M
C	H	J	G	N	S	O	F	S	H	A	Y	E	O	Y
E	E	E	I	S	H	E	N	N	E	N	D	R	R	T
V	W	S	E	L	I	I	C	S	A	D	F	V	E	N
G	L	U	N	C	L	U	Y	O	V	S	G	B	K	Y
E	I	S	A	C	O	J	T	T	E	A	R	R	A	L
S	T	V	N	S	O	R	H	M	N	S	E	Y	M	P
R	S	T	E	I	K	Y	O	L	A	U	B	D	E	I
U	O	I	N	T	U	C	E	V	N	O	S	A	H	T
O	D	T	S	P	P	R	E	R	D	H	Y	Y	T	L
Y	N	S	W	L	E	A	R	F	E	T	A	E	S	U
L	S	I	E	K	R	E	N	M	A	H	F	L	I	M
T	T	H	E	L	O	R	D	K	R	V	W	E	E	L
O	Y	S	L	L	I	H	E	H	T	I	A	D	H	W
M	L	O	A	V	E	P	L	E	H	Y	M	S	H	F

Find the underlined words from the memory verse in the puzzle above.

I look up to the hills. Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord. He is the Maker of heaven and earth.
Psalm 121:1, 2



Preschool Word Search

R D I S C I P L E S R E
E I V A T S O Y S C N D
H A P E M E N N T E W S
B O A T I S H J E S U S
J E W O M H E A S Y L S
Q J E S T O R M P L E S
S T R U L T I F L Y R E
D W A L K T E R L D R S
M D I L T W E T E R T S
D L O N W A T E R R B N
L C H E L P E N E R S J
H E W A L K A N G W A T

JESUS

BOAT

WALK

DISCIPLES

STORM

ON WATER



Preschool Word Search

R D I S C I P L E S R E
E I V A T S O Y S C N D
H A P E M E N N T E W S
B O A T I S H J E S U S
J E W O M H E A S Y L S
Q J E S T O R M P L E S
S T R U L T I F L Y R E
D W A L K T E R L D R S
M D I L T W E T E R T S
D L O N W A T E R R B N
L C H E L P E N E R S J
H E W A L K A N G W A T

JESUS

DISCIPLES

BOAT

STORM

WALK

ON WATER