



November 15, 2020
3's and 4's

JESUS WALKED ON WATER | Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6

Memory Verse: ²⁵“All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. **JOHN 14:25-26**

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.

Bottom Line: I know that Jesus is who He says He is.

Christ Connection: Jesus proved that He can be trusted. His miracles, teaching, death, and resurrection showed that He is who He says He is. Only Jesus can save us when we look to Him in faith.

Leader Notes:

CONTEXT

Jesus had just fed more than five thousand people on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. After sending away the people and directing His disciples to go back across the sea, Jesus went to a mountain to pray. It was late, and He sought to be alone with His Father. Jesus was preparing to fulfill His Father's plan. Before long, He would die on the cross and rescue people from sin.

While Jesus prayed, the disciples struggled to cross the sea. A storm came and tossed their boat up and down. They didn't make any progress against the waves. Then, in the early morning hours, they saw a figure walking toward them on the water. They thought it was a ghost, but it was Jesus!

Peter asked Jesus to command him to come out on the water, and Jesus called to him. Peter walked on the water too- until he remembered the storm. Peter took his eyes off of Jesus, and he began to sink. Peter cried out to Jesus, "Save me!"

Jesus took Peter by the hand, and they got into the boat. The wind and waves calmed. Though Peter had doubted, the disciples worshiped Jesus. Clearly He was no ordinary man; this was the Son of God- the promised Messiah!

Jesus proved that He can be trusted. His miracles, teaching, death, and resurrection showed that He is who He says He is. As you teach, encourage kids to look to Jesus in faith every day. We can seek Him for our salvation and for help as we live in this world. Even in the midst of fear and doubt, we can hold out our empty hands and cry, "Lord save me!" He will answer, and we can respond in worship of our Lord and Savior.

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- Every miracles of Jesus teaches us something about Jesus.
- Jesus showed He is God by walking on water.
- Peter walked on water when He kept His eyes on Jesus.
- We live our lives with His power when we live by faith, keeping our focus on Him.
- **Bottom Line:** I know that Jesus is who He says He is.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus proved that He can be trusted. His miracles, teaching, death, and resurrection showed that He is who He says He is. Only Jesus can save us when we look to Him in faith.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and small group leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.



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Play it Out:

What You Need: rhythm instruments

What You Do:

- Pass out a rhythm instrument for each kid.
- Ask kids to leave the instrument on the floor till you start the music.
- As you play music in the background, give instructions for kids to shake their instruments like this... (You can use this poem to help. (Shake your instrument and shake them high. Shake your instrument and shake them low. Shake your instrument and shake them high. Shake those instruments around you go. One, Two, Three, Four)
- Then ask kids to help lead the group. When they shake their instrument others will follow what they do.
- Kids can keep instruments to use during worship in song or you can put them away.

What You Say: "We can all learn from one another, though God has especially gifted some people to teach. The best teacher ever was Jesus! When Jesus taught people, everyone was amazed. We will hear what Jesus taught people in our Bible story today!"

Worship

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)

What You Say: "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible Story today."

Story Time: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kid's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Bible Story

What You Need: Bible

What You Do: Place a book mark in Matthew 14 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it.

What You Say: "The Bible is God's Word, and God's Word is true! Today's Bible story about Jesus comes from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and John."

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Talk about the Bible Story:"

"People followed Jesus everywhere. Jesus told His friends to get in the boat and go across the sea. Jesus sent the crowds home and went on the mountain to pray. When it was nighttime, Jesus walked on the water to His friends. The friends were scared! People cannot walk on water! Jesus said, "It's me! Do not be afraid." Peter said, "Lord, if it is You, tell me to come out to You." Jesus said, "Come!" Peter stepped out of the boat. He was walking on water to Jesus! When Peter looked at the big waves, he began to sink. "Lord save me!" he cried. Jesus took Peter's hand and brought him back to the boat. Then the storm stopped. His friends said, "You really are God's Son!"

Learn the Big Picture Question

What You Say: "Jesus walked on water. People cannot normally walk on water. They would sink if they tried! Walking on water is a miracle. Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God. We can trust Him to save us from our sin."

Practice the Memory Verse:

Open your Bible to John 14:26. Read the memory verse aloud several times.



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What You Say: “This verse reminds us that God gives us help to follow His Word. His Holy Spirit helps us remember everything we learn from the Bible.”

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leaders.

1. Test your guess

What You Need: plastic bins, water, completed “sink or float” activity page, toy car, wooden alphabet block, pencil, small stone, tennis ball, blunt tip scissors, plastic boat, crayon

What You Do:

- Fill a plastic bin halfway with water. Invite preschoolers to look at their completed activity pages .
- Show kids the front of the page and remind them that they had to make guesses about which items would sink or float in the water.
- Encourage kids to place each of the items one by one in the bin of water to see if they guessed correctly.
- If the group did not complete the activity page, lead them to predict what will happen before putting each item in the water.

What You Say ” Some of the items we put in the water floated, some sank. We know that it is impossible for a person to walk on water, but Jesus walked on water. He also allowed Peter to walk on water. Walking on water was a miracle-something only God could make happen. Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.”

2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster

What You Do:

- o Show the poster to the kids.
- o As you say the words point to them on the poster.
- o Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include,
- o ““All (*sign for all*) this I have spoken (*sign for spoken*) while still with you (*Sign for here*).²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit (*Sign for Holy Spirit*), whom the Father(*sign for God*) will send in my name(*Sign for Jesus*), will teach(*sign for teach*) you all things and will remind (*Sign for think*) you of everything(*Sign 'all I said'*) I have said to you. **JOHN 14:25-26**
- o **What You Say** ” Remembering everything you learn can be hard, but God’s Word is too important to forget! So Jesus didn’t just teach us about God, He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us remember. Let’s pray and ask the Holy Spirit to teach and remind us of God’s Word!”

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: coloring page

What You Do:

- **Pray-** “ Lord, thank You that You are trustworthy. Help us love You and obey You out of love. Give us more faith each day. Give us courage to live for You even when the world around us says that is foolish or wrong. Amen.,”
- Send coloring page home with kids and tell family that we are learning John 14:26 as our memory verse during this series. They can practice at home.