



Date: _____

Series: Jesus is Our Helper
Winter Year 1, Lesson 39

Jesus Calms the Storm

Bible Event: Mark 4:35-41

Take Home Point: *JESUS HELPS US – *Give Jesus your fears.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: Jesus cannot take our problems unless we give them to him.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Children will learn is that Jesus, God's true son, can rescue us. The biggest rescue was when he gave his life for us on the cross. He also showed his disciples that he could help them and take away their fears. While he was with the disciples in a fierce storm, they were worried that they would drown. Jesus spoke to the storm and calmed the wind and the waves. Jesus can help us, as well: ***JESUS HELPS US – *Give Jesus your fears.***
- Children respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and sending Jesus for them. They will offer their songs of worship, their offerings and their actions of love as they actively learn God's Word.



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Veggie Tales: Where's God When I'm S-Scared, Big Idea Productions, 1996.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: A Visit from the Traveler

The traveler is a character costumed in traveling gear: backpack, walking stick, hiking hat and shoes. He explains that he has traveled all around the world discovering wonderful deeds that God has done. He tells of an adventure he just discovered in God's Word as he pulls the Bible out of his backpack. As he tells the Bible event, he pulls out objects from his backpack that illustrate the story.

Props:

- Bible
- Umbrella
- Spray bottle with water
- Pillow

Jesus Calms the Storm

As I have been traveling the land, I've discovered how God has been working. I found out that God had sent us his son, Jesus, because he wants to help us. And Jesus can take away our fears. Here in the Bible, is an event that describes that. Let me tell it to you.

A long time ago, Jesus was teaching the people. They crowded around him all day long. It was time for Jesus to go away and get some rest. He told his disciples that he wanted to go out in a boat and leave that area. Together they all got into the boat and went out to sea. Since it was night, Jesus went to sleep on a pillow in the back of the boat. (Show the pillow.)

As I have been traveling the land, I've discovered how God has been working. I found out that God had sent us his son, Jesus, because he wants to help us. And Jesus can take away our fears. Here in the Bible, is an event that describes that. Let me tell it to you.

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While he was sleeping, the wind began to blow a little bit stronger! Can you hear the wind? (Make whistling noise.) Soon it was beginning to rain. (Pat your hand on your lap.) Then, it was raining harder. (Show umbrella.) It began to blow and rain so hard that no umbrella would help. They didn't even have umbrellas. Instead, all they had was rickety old boat that was being tossed this way and that way. The waves were now crashing against the boat and water was getting in. (Take a spray bottle and start spraying the kids.)

The disciples began to yell because they were very afraid. Water was all over them. The boat was filling up with water and they were afraid the boat was going to sink. They woke Jesus up and said, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

Jesus got up and looked at the fierce wind and the mighty waves and said, "Quiet! Be still!" Instantly, the wind stopped blowing and the waves quit splashing water into the boat. Everything was completely calm. (Make a "shh" sound with finger over lips.) Jesus asked his disciples, "Why are you so afraid?"

The disciples were very afraid of the storm. They thought they were going to drown. Now they weren't afraid at all. Instead they were amazed. They saw that Jesus stopped the storm and made everything calm just with his words. They knew certainly that Jesus must be the Son of God.

Sometimes you and I get afraid just like the disciples were afraid of the storm. But we need to trust Jesus to help take our fears away. Even if we can't see him, he knows that he is there. He always wants to help us when we're afraid. Remember **JESUS HELPS US – Give Jesus your fears.*

Pray with the children, having them repeat each phrase.

Dear God, (repeat)

Thank you for being here. (repeat)

Thank you for sending Jesus. (repeat)

Jesus helps us. (repeat)

We give Jesus our fears. (repeat)

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! (repeat)

Amen. (repeat)



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones. During

the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Have each child frost a sugar cookie with blue frosting to create a sea. Set one candy orange slice on the frosting like boat. Have children drop blue sprinkles over the cookie and boat as rain.

Option: Use blue Jell-o cups and a small marshmallow as a pillow

Drama Zone: Place masking tape on the floor in the shape of a boat. Provide a pillow and have children sit in the “boat” and act out the storm. If you want to make it a little wilder, let an adult spray water. Lightly mist the children with water as they act out the story.

Craft Zone: On a clean sheet of paper, place small drops blue Tempera paint on the page. Have children blow through straws to splatter the paint across the page. Mixing other dark colors will make it look even stormier. Attach a label that says, “Jesus calms the storms and takes away our fears.”

Play Zone: Have children think of a fear that they have. Have them write or draw that fear on a blank piece of paper. Fold the paper into a simple paper airplane. Have a pillow that represents Jesus in the boat on the floor 10 feet away. Have the children symbolically give their fears to Jesus by flying the paper airplane to the pillow.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books. Read underneath an umbrella.

Music Zone: Create storm sounds. Provide an aluminum sheet, rain sticks, poster board, etc.

Coloring Zone: Color page with markers and crayons.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba, the puppet, is too afraid to come on the stage. The presenter calls him, but he says he won't come up. He heard we're having a storm today and he's very afraid of lightning.

The presenter explains that it's just a pretend storm and that he'll be safe. Bubba comes up very tentatively in a raincoat. The presenter explains that we just happen to be talking today about how to give Jesus some of our fears so we don't have to be so afraid. Bubba seems unsure because storms are really scary and there's lightning and thunder and just thinking about it makes him afraid.

The presenter tells Bubba that we're all afraid sometimes and asks the kids what kinds of things they're afraid of. God sent Jesus to help us and to take away our fears. No matter what, we can tell Jesus what we're afraid of and he will always be there with us even if we can't see him. And if Jesus is with us, then we don't need to be afraid anymore! ***JESUS HELPS US – Give Jesus your fears.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone such as, the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- video: *Where's God When I'm Scared*—order from: <http://www.veggiegear.com/whergodwheni.html>
- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- Bible
- umbrella
- spray bottle with water
- pillow

Action Zones:

Snack:

- sugar cookie
- blue frosting
- candy oranges
- blue sprinkles
- option: blue Jell-O with mini marshmallows

Craft:

- paper
- blue Tempura paint
- straws
- labels: "Jesus calms the storms and takes away our fears"

Play:

- blank sheet paper
- pillow

Drama:

- masking tape
- pillow
- option: sprayer with water:

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books
- umbrella

Music:

- storm sounds
- aluminum sheets
- rain sticks
- poster board

Coloring

- coloring page
- markers and crayons

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books