



Kindergarten-2nd

March 16-17, 2013

DATE

Jesus Calms the Storm

LESSON TITLE

Matthew 8:23-27

Adventure Bible for Early Readers, pg. 1131

WHERE TO FIND IT

We can give our fears to God

MAIN POINT

schedule

Hang out with kids (10 minutes): Ask kids about their week. Get kids into groups and play games together.

Large Group (30 minutes): Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group. And don't be afraid to redirect kids who aren't!

Small Group (20-30 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

When you move from one activity to the next, set kids up for success—tell them what you expect from a good audience in Large Group, and how to participate well in Small Group.

check-in/out

As kids check out, remind them to tell their parents what they plan to do when they're afraid this week.

large group heads up

In today's story, Jesus calms a huge storm. It shows that Jesus is powerful enough to calm any of our fears!



instructions

Goal: To help kids practice lifting up their fears to God and watching their worries disappear

Why? God wants us to release our fears and trust him in all things, but it doesn't come naturally. It's a discipline that must be practiced.

Tip: We're using water in today's lesson. Have a **small bowl/pitcher** ready to go when the kids get out of large group to help keep things organized (and dry!).

small group

CONNECT

1. Tell me your name and one fear you thought of during large group, one thing that scares you.

REVIEW

2. In today's story, why did Jesus' friends get scared? (they were on a boat and huge storm came, also, Jesus was asleep)
3. What did they do? (they yelled to Jesus to help them)
4. When Jesus woke up and saw the storm, was he scared? (No way! He even asked them why they were scared.)
5. What did Jesus do after his friends woke him up? (He stopped the storm!)

REACT/RELATE

6. How did Jesus stop the storm? (He's God's Son; he's more powerful than anything; he created the waves and the weather so of course he can control it)
7. What does God want us to do when we're afraid? (give our fears to him, because he loves us)

FAITH ACTIVITY

8. Think of the fear you thought of in the beginning. We're going to practice lifting up our fears to God. Write your fear or draw a picture of it on this piece of paper. (Hand each kid a piece of **dissolving paper and a pen.**)
9. Now, let's read our verse again: **I Peter 5:7 Give all your worries to him because he cares about you.** Can you guys say that with me? (Have the kids repeat it.)
10. Let's see what happens when we give our fears to God. I'll go first (Model by saying, "God, I give you my fear of _____ to you." Be authentic, but keep it kid-friendly!)
(continue on the next page!)

11. Throw your paper in the water and watch it disappear!

12. Let the kids go around one by one! Remind them that our fears disappear when we give them to God!

***After everyone has thrown their fear into the water, pray with the kids and thank God that we can give him our fears. Ask him to help you all remember to have faith in him this week.**

Extra time?

Grab a group game and play it together as a small group!

special notes

Today's lesson is about giving our fears to God. Of course, we might still find ourselves in scary situations, like when the disciples were stuck in a boat in a huge storm! But this story shows us that Jesus wants us to trust him and have faith even when we're caught in one of life's "storms."

presenter tips

There are two loops (one is used twice) in today's lesson. Really play up the calm vs. rocky waters! And when the kids create their own "storm," feel free to let them get a little loud and crazy!

script

Hi kids! Welcome to Kids' Club! It's so great to see you all here. Before we get started, I want you to go grab a leader's hand. (Wait for kids to circle up around leaders.) Okay, now *puuuuuuu* them forward to sit next to you! (Let kids pull volunteers forward.) Great job! Okay, now everybody have a seat.

Today, we're going to talk about how Jesus is stronger than our fears. What are you guys most afraid of? **Turn and tell a friend what makes you scared.** (Let kids tell a friend.)

Let's see what you guys are scared of! I'm going to say something...and if you're afraid of it, give me a big thumbs down. Ready? ... Spiders! (Let kids give a thumbs down). Yeah, I don't like spiders and their creepy, crawly legs!

How about...the dark? (Let kids give thumbs down.) Yeah, sometimes it seems scary in the dark alone.

What about...going to the doctor and getting a shot? (Let kids give thumbs down.) Yeah, me too, but it is never actually as bad as I think! In fact, my doctor is really nice!

One more: how about...storms? (Let kids give thumbs down) Wow, some of us *are* afraid of storms...And guess what? So were Jesus' friends! They were especially afraid one time while they were on a boat. Let's see what happened!

INTRO: JESUS CALMS THE STORM

So one day, Jesus got on a boat with his friends and sailed out into the water. He and his friends just wanted to sail across the lake to a quiet place. Everything seemed peaceful. Maybe something like this: (**show the quiet sea loop**). Sun shining, waves lapping the side of the boat...it was perfect.

In fact, it was so peaceful that Jesus went to sleep! (Pretend to go to sleep—feel free to snore!). Ahhhh! Nobody felt afraid at all!

A STORM COMES

Well, while they were in the middle of the lake and Jesus was still asleep, a HUGE storm rolled in. The seas got rocky (**show the rocky sea loop**; make your voice dramatic for the next part): Rain started pattering. Can you guys patter your fingers on the floor? (Let kids make sound effect.) Wind started “whooooshing!” Keep pattering, but add some “whoosh” noises! (Let kids add sound effect.)

Waves smashed against the boat. It was thundering and lightning. On the count of three, everybody yell BOOM (in your deepest voice) like thunder as loud as you can. 1-2-3 BOOM! (Let kids say: BOOM!) Just imagine how scared Jesus’ friends must have felt!

If you were on those waters (point to the loop) and a storm that loud was echoing all around, would YOU be scared? (Let kids respond.)

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Well, Jesus’ friends were terrified! But remember, Jesus was sleeping! So his friends called to him and said, “Jesus! Help us!” Jesus woke up and saw the storm (look at the loop). Then guess what he said! He said, “Why are you guys scared?”

What do you think Jesus’ disciples said? Why do YOU think they were scared? **Turn and tell a friend why you think they were scared.** (Let kids tell a friend; if time, take a couple answers.) Yeah, they probably worried that the boat would get filled with water and they’d be shipwrecked—maybe even drown!

But even though there was a big storm, Jesus knew they had no need to be scared. He is more powerful than anything! Jesus just stood up and said very calmly, “Hush!” (Pause; **show the calm loop** again, then whisper the next part:) *Then the storm stopped.*

The disciples stood, shocked (stand open-mouthed). Matthew 8:27 says:

SLIDE: Matthew 8:27: The disciples were amazed. They asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!”

They couldn’t believe that Jesus could stop a storm! But remember, Jesus wasn’t just a man...he was God’s Son! And who created the waves and the wind and the weather? (Let kids say: God!) Yes, God! So *of course* he and Jesus can control it! Jesus’ friends didn’t need to be scared—they should have known that JESUS would take care of them!

CONCLUSION

The best news is, Jesus is more powerful than storms, but he’s also more powerful than any animals like spiders or snakes, any people, any sickness! There’s nothing that should scare us. I Peter 5:7 says this:



script continued

SLIDE: I Peter 5:7 Give all your worries to him because he cares about you.

Whenever we feel afraid, we can give those worries and fears to God, because he loves us. Sometimes scary things might happen, just like that storm in today's story. But we can trust that God will take care of us.

Let's practice! Think about the fears we talked about in the beginning: spiders, the dark, doctors, and storms. Give me another thumbs down if you were scared of one of those things (let kids give a thumbs down). Now let's turn our thumbs down into hands lifting up (model this, turning your palms upward).

Every time you feel afraid, you can do this (raise your palms) or say "I give you my fear!" And then you can relax and trust that God loves you and will take care of you, even in the hard times. When you do that, it's called having faith!

WORSHIP

Now let's stand and ask God to help us have faith in him—to help us be brave and trust him by giving all our fears to him so we aren't scared anymore!

Music Video: Bravery (live lyrics with hand motions)

Music Video: Because of Your Love (animated version—learn hand motions ahead of time)

Before we head to small groups, let's pray together.

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank God for loving us and taking our fears.



script continued

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name



PREP needs



small group supplies

Coloring pages

- A 2"x2" square of dissolving paper for each kid
- A pen for each kid
- A small, clear bowl of water for each small group
- Water pitcher for sites that don't have a sink

large group supplies

Adventure Bible for Early Readers, pg. 1131

a/v needs

1. Calm seas You Tube loop:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvfABSX79jc>
2. Rocky seas You Tube loop:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZpbjEA7TeQ>
3. Calm seas You Tube loop AGAIN:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvfABSX79jc>
4. SLIDE: Matthew 8:27: The disciples were amazed. They asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"
5. SLIDE: I Peter 5:7 Give all your worries to him because he cares about you.
6. Music Video: Bravery (live lyric worship video)
7. Music Video: Because of Your Love (animated version)

special room set-up

None

connect questions

Tell me about the storm.

What should we do when we feel afraid?

parent page

Once, Jesus was on a boat with his disciples. A huge storm came and the disciples were terrified! Jesus asked them why. Even when life feels "stormy," Jesus is stronger. We practiced giving our fears to God today. When he takes them, we don't have to be scared anymore! Ask your kid about it. And read the story together in Matthew 8:23-27 in the Bible.