ABCJesusLovesMe Sunday School Curriculum Example

## Week 17: Jesus Calms the Storm

Scripture: Matthew 8:23-27

Memory Verse: Psalm 56:3-4a When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God whose Word I praise.

Steve Green – *Hide 'Em in Your Heart* Vol. 1 - #5 When I am afraid (put hand to mouth, worried look) I will trust in you (hands on hips like super hero) In God (point up) Whose Word I praise. (form book with hands)

Choose the activities that are best for your children and situation.

Song: My God is So Big Traditional

Chorus:

My God is so big (spread arms side)

So strong and so mighty (make muscles with up with both arms, and then down)

There's nothing my God cannot do (shake head "no" and cross arms in front of body)

For you (point to another person) *Repeat Chorus* 

Verse:

The mountains are His (make mountains with arms above head) The valleys are His (make valleys with arms at waist) The stars are His handiwork too – oo – oo (Hold hands above head and make "stars" with fingers) *Repeat Chorus* 

Comprehension Questions:

Did you know that while on earth Jesus got tired? Do you have trouble sleeping through a storm? Why do you think Jesus was able to sleep through the storm? The disciples went to Jesus when they got scared. Who can you go to when you get scared? (pray to Jesus) Can you tell the wind and rain to stop during a storm? No, but Jesus can. Jesus is so powerful that even the wind and the waves obey Him.

Snack Options:

Blue Jello and Teddy Grams

To Purchase Books and Licenses: <u>ABCJesusLovesMe.com/sunday-school-curriculum</u>



Jesus is in control.

<u>Books of the Bíble</u> <u>Song</u>:

1 Timothy - James

Activity and Craft Supplies:

- *Hide 'Em in Your Heart* Vol. 1
- Blue Streamers
- Tape
- Large Craft Sticks
- Blue Blanket
- Teddy Bears



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# Week 17: Activities

## Activity:

**Stop the Storm:** Have each child grab hold of a large blue blanket. Place a few teddy bears in the center. Instruct the children to wave the blanket, keeping the teddy bears in. Take turns having a child shout, "Stop." Immediately have the children hold the blanket still. Discuss how Jesus calmed the storm with just His words. *Idea Adapted from BrightHubEducation.com* 

### <u>Craft</u>:

**Waves Streamer:** Attach different shades of blue streamers to a large craft stick with tape. Use the streamers for the Bible story. Encourage the children to use the wave stick at home to tell the story to their family.

#### Fingerplay:

**Create a Rainstorm** *Traditional:* Imagine sitting with the disciples on the boat and the storm comes. Have the children help you create the storm by following your lead.

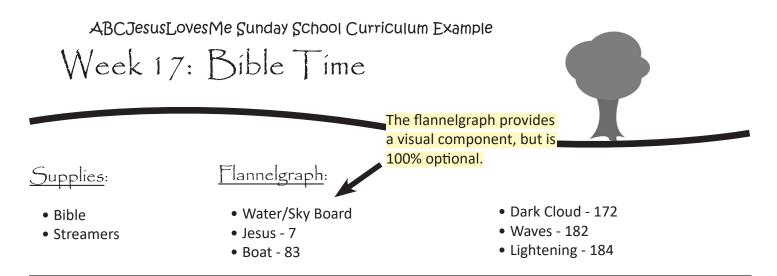
- 1. Slowly rub fingertips together (wind coming)
- 2. Slowly rub hands together (wind getting heavier)
- 3. Quickly rub hands together (wind getting stronger)
- 4. Slowly snap fingers (raindrops coming) This is a very difficult task for a preschooler, but the child will have fun trying!
- 5. Quickly snap fingers (heavy rain)
- 6. Clap hands (thunder)
- 7. Clap and then immediately hold hands up with spread fingers and strike downward (lightning)
- 8. Quickly tap thighs (very hard rainfall)
- 9. Jesus said, "Wind, be quiet. Wave, peace." (storm immediately stops)

#### Additional Ideas:

ABCJLM Ideas: ABCJesusLovesMe.com/ideas/jesus-calms-the-storm

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Give each child a streamer. Before beginning the Bible story, train the children how to properly wave the streamer and practice putting the streamer down when told.

Our story today is going to be filled with worry (*demonstrate a worried face*) and amazement (*demonstrate an amazed face*). Show me a worried face. Show me an amazed face.

Jesus spent much of His time teaching, preaching, and healing the sick. Jesus and the disciples had had a long day and they were tired. Just like we get tired, Jesus was tired and needed to rest. In Luke – Matthew, Mark, Luke - Jesus told His disciples to get in the boat and said, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." While in the <u>boat</u>, Jesus fell asleep. Let's pretend to be sleeping like Jesus.

Suddenly <u>dark clouds</u> filled the sky. Pick up your streamer. A strong wind began to blow. Whooo.... *Slowly wave streamer.* The <u>waves</u> grew tall and taller, slamming against the side of the boat. Smash! The <u>lightening</u> was bright in the air. Crash! *Move streamer more.* The disciples started to worry. Show me a worried face. The boat rocked back and forth. *While sitting, rock back and forth.* The disciples were scared because they knew the boat would soon sink if this storm didn't stop.

"Jesus! Jesus!" the disciples screamed. But, the storm was so loud. "Jesus! Wake up! Save us! We are going to drown!" The disciples were so worried. Show me a worried face. <u>Jesus</u> said, "Why are so worried and afraid? You have so little faith."

Then Jesus stood up and said to the storm, "Wind, be quiet. Waves, peace!" Immediately the storm stopped. The lightening disappeared. *Remove lightening*. The dark clouds disappeared. *Remove clouds*. The water calmed. *Remove waves*. Lay down your streamer. Jesus calmed the storm.

The disciples looked at each other in amazement. Show me a face of amazement. The disciples started talking among themselves. "Who is this man? Even the wind and waves obey Him. We are amazed at what Jesus can do!"

Put your hand on your chin if you get scared and worried about storms. Maybe you worry about other things. Sometimes I worry about what will happen in the future. This true Bible story is a reminder that I can trust Jesus because even storms obey Jesus. Instead of worrying, we can pray to Jesus or sing a Bible verse song to remind us that Jesus will help us. Remember, Jesus can do amazing things!

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