



UNIT 7, SESSION 1

## PETER WALKS ON WATER

MATTHEW 14

### KEY POINT

Jesus is with us.

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is with us? Jesus is with us!

### MEMORY VERSE

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. John 14:15



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This week's lesson could also be titled "Jesus, the God of the Impossible". This week, we get to help children discover something amazing about Jesus: He does what no one else can do. A miracle isn't just something surprising or unlikely, it's something only God can make happen. Jesus didn't just talk about God's power; He showed it through real miracles that revealed both His strength and His deep love for people.

We can walk in water, but never on it. Yet Jesus did the impossible when He walked on the water, and even more incredible, He invited Peter to step out of the boat and join Him. For a moment, Peter did the impossible too. As long as his eyes were on Jesus, he walked on the waves.

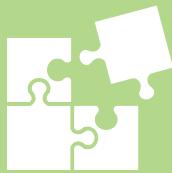
But then doubt crept in. Doubt often enters quietly. It whispers questions like, "What if I can't do this?" or "What if Jesus doesn't help me this time?" Even when we know the truth about Jesus and who He is, our hearts can still struggle to trust.

Fear often fuels that doubt. Like Peter, when we focus on what scares us instead of who Jesus is, we begin to sink. Fear makes us forget that we are loved, held, and never alone.

When Peter began to sink, he didn't try to fix things on his own. He didn't pretend everything was okay. He simply cried out, "Lord, save me!" And Jesus immediately reached out His hand and rescued him. Jesus didn't hesitate. He didn't turn away. He was right there.

We just have to call out to Jesus. He hears us. He cares. He responds. Jesus is the God of the impossible. He is present in our doubt, stronger than our fear, and faithful every time we call on Him.

# WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

## WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

## MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “London Bridge is Falling Down”:

If you love me you will keep  
my commandments,  
my commandments.  
If you love me you will keep  
my commandments.  
John 14:15

## THE LORD'S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

**Toddlers & Twos:** Use the provided poster to review the Lord's Prayer with the children in your class.

**Threes & Fours:** Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

# CRAFT

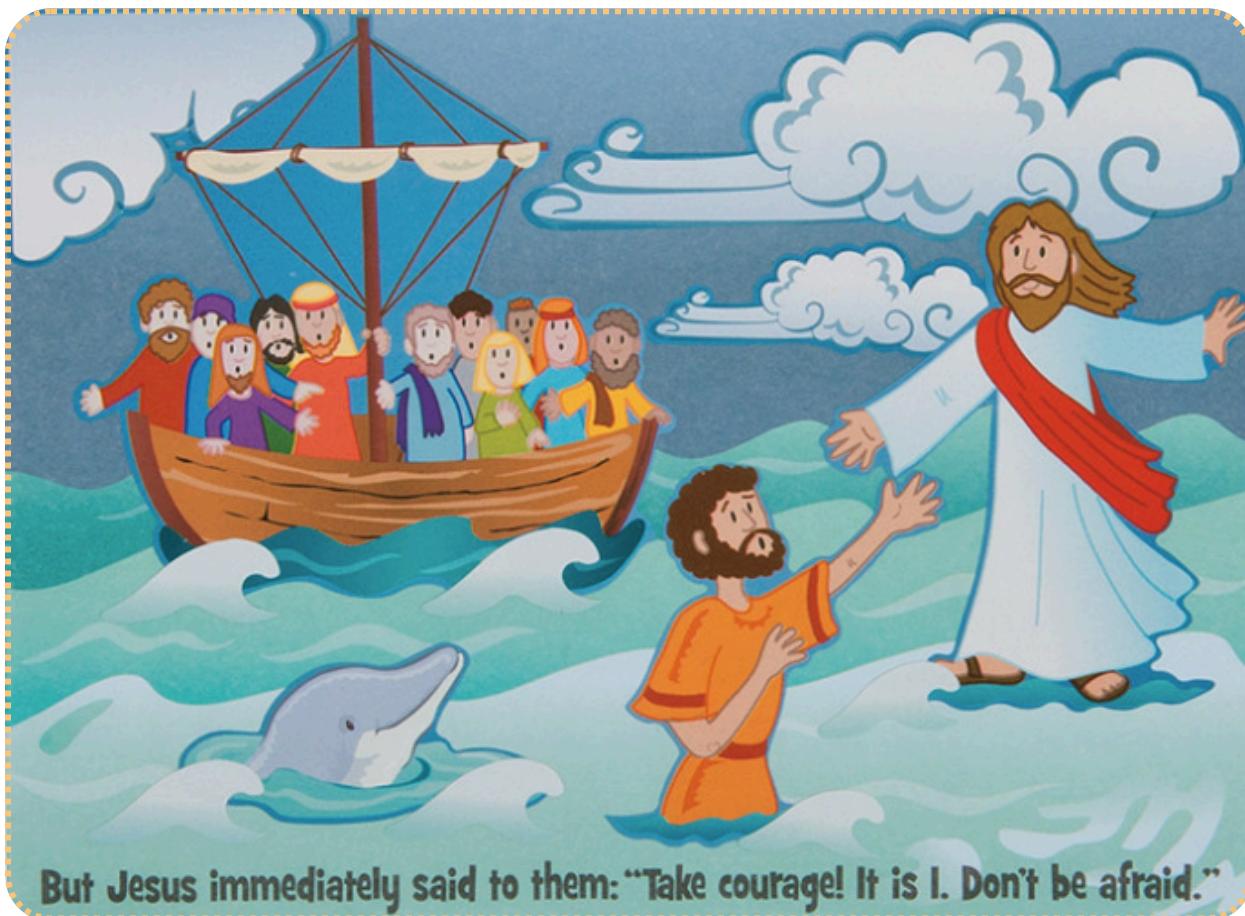


Help children with a craft connected to the Bible lesson.

## CRAFT: WALKING ON WATER

Give each child one of the provided papers and sticker sheets. Help children as needed as they put their stickers on the sheet to create the scene of Jesus and Peter walking on water from our Bible lesson today.

Review the Bible lesson with them as you work. Be sure to write each child's name somewhere on their craft so they know which one to take home!



# BIBLE TIME



Review the Bible lesson with your class.

## BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Jesus was teaching and helping lots of people. After a long day, He told His friends, the disciples, to ride in a boat while He went to pray.

While they were on the water, the wind started to blow, and the waves got big. The disciples were scared. Then they saw someone walking on the water! It was Jesus!

Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. It's Me!" Peter wanted to come to Jesus, so Jesus said, "Come." Peter stepped out of the boat and began to walk on the water, just like Jesus! But then Peter looked at the big waves. Peter called out, "Jesus, help me!" Right away, Jesus caught him.

They got back in the boat, and the wind stopped. Everyone said, "Jesus is God's Son!" Peter learned he could always trust Jesus. We can, too.

## THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Jesus and his disciples had been busy preaching to crowds and performing miracles. Jesus wanted some time alone so that He could pray. He told his disciples to get in the boat and cross the Sea of Galilee ahead of Him.

In the middle of the lake, stormy winds began to blow the disciples' boat, and the waves grew high. Then, all of a sudden, they saw something walking towards them. The disciples were scared. But then they heard a voice: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Peter couldn't believe his ears. It was Jesus! He told Jesus to call him to come out on the water. Jesus said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and walked toward Jesus on the water.

But then he remembered: People can't walk on water! He saw the storm and began to panic. Peter took his eyes off Jesus and cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Jesus caught Peter and asked, "Why did you doubt?" They climbed back into the boat, and the storm stopped. Everyone in the boat worshiped Jesus, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." Peter learned He could always trust Jesus.

**KEY POINT: Jesus is with us.**

# SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

## SNACK & DISCUSSION

**Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.**

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Who walked on the water with Jesus?
4. Who is with us? Jesus is with us!

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

## BEFORE YOU GO...

**Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:**

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**