



SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

JESUS CALMED A STORM

MATTHEW 8; MARK 4; LUKE 8

CHRIST CONNECTION

The disciples saw that Jesus has power over nature. He is the Son of God, the promised Savior. One day, Jesus would show His greatest power—not by calming a storm, but by dying on the cross and rising from the dead to save people from sin. Jesus saves everyone who trusts in Him.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Is the Bible true? Yes, the Bible is true and has no error.

MEMORY VERSE

Isaiah 40:8

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

A friend of mine recalled a childhood memory when he jolted out of bed in the middle of the night, ran into the hallway, and put his head between his knees. A tornado was ripping through his neighborhood.

As the storm passed over his family's house, it sounded like a train was roaring above them. And yet, when the winds and rain finally died down, my friend realized his brother never made it out of his bedroom. When my friend went to check on him, he was sound asleep. He had slept through the entire storm.

This image of peace amid chaos is similar to Jesus' disposition in this week's story of Him calming the storm. The disciples were experienced fishermen, but this storm on the Sea of Galilee was fierce. The waves crashed into their small boat, and the wind howled. They were convinced they were going to drown. Meanwhile, Jesus—the Son of God, their teacher and Lord—was asleep in the boat.

In panic, they shook Him awake and shouted, “Lord, save us! Don’t you care that we’re going to die?” Jesus stood up and said to the wind and the waves, “Silence! Be still!” Instantly, everything stopped. The sea became as smooth as glass.

Then Jesus turned to His disciples and asked, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” Jesus was reminding them it doesn’t matter how strong the storm is outside the boat when Jesus is inside the boat.

When the storms of life rise—whether it’s a health crisis, financial struggle, broken relationship, or deep anxiety—it’s easy to feel like Jesus is “asleep” in your life. This story, however, reminds us that He is still in control—and He never loses His sovereign grip.

As you teach kids this week, help them see that the same Savior who calmed the wind and waves that night still speaks peace into the chaos of our lives today.

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to large group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or practice the memory verse!

MEMORY VERSE

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's memory verse folder to review the verse with kids.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on September 27!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in large group.

JESUS CALMED A STORM

One evening, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the Sea of Galilee." They set out and began to sail across, and other boats were with them. Jesus lay down in the back of the boat and fell asleep on a cushion.

While Jesus slept, the wind began to blow. Suddenly a powerful storm arose on the sea. The wind became so strong it caused waves to pour into the disciples' boat. The disciples, many of them fishermen, had been in storms before—but this storm was fierce. They thought they might drown!

The disciples rushed to Jesus and woke Him. "Lord, save us!" they shouted, "Don't you care that we're going to die?"

Jesus stood up. He looked at the roaring wind and the crashing waves and said, "Silence! Be still!"

Right away, the wind stopped. The waves became calm. Then Jesus turned to His disciples and said, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

The disciples were amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after large group.

ACTIVITY: PARACHUTE STORM

Have the group sit in a circle and give them the provided parachute to hold onto.

Choose one kid to be “Jesus” and explain that everyone is going to shake the parachute to make waves (the crazier the better), but when Jesus shouts “STOP” everyone has to freeze and stop making the waves.

Play multiple rounds, allowing multiple kids to be Jesus, and give a variety of instructions of how kids should make the waves (e.g., small, big, super fast, slow-motion, etc.)

For an added challenge, add some of the provided plastic balls to the top of the parachute and challenge kids to either keep them all on the parachute, or to make them all fly off.

CONNECT THE DOTS



We got to make all kinds of waves with the parachute. Imagine being in the middle of that chaos during a real storm! That's what happened in our story today, but with just His words, Jesus stopped the storm immediately.

BIBLE SKILLS: TRUE & WITHOUT ERROR

Remind kids of our Big Picture Question and Answer: *Is the Bible true? Yes, the Bible is true and has no error.*

Create groups of three or four kids and give each group a Bible. Assign each group a Bible verse about the trustworthiness and importance of Scripture, such as:

- Psalm 119:105
- Romans 10:17
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Hebrews 4:12

Lead groups to look up their Scripture, read it, and discuss what it teaches. Give each group time to share with the larger group.

After everyone has gone, give each kid an index card and something to write with. Encourage them to choose one of the verses and write it on the card and keep it in their Bible.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. What does Jesus calming the storm reveal about His character?
2. How can knowing that Jesus is God help us to not fear?
3. What are some “storms” in our lives that we need to trust Jesus with?
4. Why do you think the disciples asked “Who is this man?” Did they not know who Jesus was?
5. How can remembering God and His character help us every day? (*see Isaiah 26:3*)

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the “extra time” folder on the TV.

If there’s a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

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

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!