



OCTOBER 11, 2026

JESUS WALKED ON WATER

MATTHEW 14; MARK 6; JOHN 6

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus showed He is God by walking on water. He has power over everything—wind, waves, and even fear. Jesus is the Son of God who cares for us and is always with us. **When we trust Jesus, we don't need to be afraid.**

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why do we need to be born again? Because of sin we are spiritually dead, but Jesus came to give us new life.

MEMORY VERSE

John 11:25

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The Texas Giant is a roller coaster that slowly sends riders up 153 feet before dropping them back down at high speeds. At the top of that incline, a sign states, “Wait! Let’s discuss this!” A similar thought might have been on the minds of the other disciples when Peter asked to join Jesus walking on the water!

When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, they were terrified. But as soon as Jesus spoke to them in the boat and identified Himself, Peter saw an opportunity. He asked for Jesus to command him to come, stepped out of the boat, and started walking toward Jesus.

Peter wanted to be where Jesus was even if it meant leaving his comfort zone. Peter left the security of the boat and took a risk. God calls us to do the same. He calls us to step into the challenges He sets before us, even when the task seems difficult or even impossible.

This story also shows us that when we step out in faith, challenges are to be expected. The wind was fierce, and the waves were intimidating. And when Peter shifted his focus to the situation around him, he began to sink. The writer of Hebrews tells us to keep our eyes on Jesus as we run the race of life (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Even in Peter’s failing, he discovered the goodness of God. When Peter cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out His hand and lifted him up. God’s grace meets us in the middle of our weaknesses. Even when our faith falters, He is faithful, ready to rescue and restore.

Peter shows us that following Christ with boldness will draw us closer to Him. We will experience a deeper relationship with our Savior as we take risks for Him. Each act of obedience, every step taken in faith, brings us closer to Him and gives us courage to face the next challenge.

This week, help kids look past the distractions and storms of life as they fix their eyes on Jesus as the Savior they need.

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

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

John 11:25 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 the kids.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on October 25!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in large group.

JESUS WALKED ON WATER

After Jesus fed the big crowd with five loaves and two fish, He told His disciples to get into a boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake. Jesus wanted to pray alone on a nearby mountain.

The disciples got into the boat and started rowing across the water. But soon, a strong wind began to blow. The waves became big, and the boat rocked back and forth.

Very early in the morning while it was still dark, Jesus went out to the disciples. But He didn't walk on the road or take a boat. Jesus walked on the water!

When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, they were very scared. They thought He was a ghost!

But Jesus said, "Have courage. It is Me."

Peter, one of the disciples, said, "Lord, if it really is You, tell me to come to You on the water." Jesus said, "Come."

Peter climbed out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when Peter looked at the strong wind and big waves, he became afraid and started to sink.

"Save me, Lord!" Peter cried.

Jesus reached out His hand and caught Peter. Jesus said, "You have little faith. Why did you doubt?" Then Jesus and Peter climbed into the boat. The wind stopped, and the water became calm. The disciples worshiped Jesus. They said, "You are truly the Son of God!"

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus showed He is God by walking on water. He has power over everything—wind, waves, and even fear. Jesus is the Son of God who cares for us and is always with us. When we trust Jesus, we don't need to be afraid.

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after large group.

GAME: “STEPPING STONES”

Use poly dots to create a “stepping stone” path across the room. Choose one kid to be “Jesus” and have them stand at the end of the path. One at a time, kids will travel across the stepping stones without looking down at their feet—they must keep their eyes on “Jesus” to guide them! Meanwhile, everyone else can try to distract them by making noises, waving their arms, or calling out to them.

Play until everyone has had a turn and if time allows, let kids try again!



CONNECT THE DOTS

Peter was able to walk on the water when his focus was on Jesus, but when he became distracted by the wind and waves, he began to sink. Just like Peter, we can keep our focus on Jesus even when things around us try to distract us.

BIBLE SKILLS: TIMELINE REVIEW & PUZZLE

Review each era of the Bible using the timeline on pages 6-7.

If time allows, challenge kids to put the provided timeline puzzle in the correct order.

BIBLE TIMELINE



Reference and review
the Bible timeline
during small group.



God created all things and said that they were good. God created humans in His image with the ability to choose to love and trust and obey Him.



Adam and Eve chose to rebel against God and trust in themselves; this choice was sin. Their relationship with God, one another, and themselves was broken. God cursed the ground and promised to send a savior.



Adam and Eve's descendants grow, spread across the land, and rebel against God. This period covers events such as the flood/Noah's ark, the tower of Babel, etc.



God chooses the family of Abraham to be His special people. (Patriarch = father) Key patriarchs include Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (Israel), and Joseph.



God's people were forced into slavery in Egypt. God rescued them and made a special covenant with them. The sacrificial system was put into place to show that the price of sin is death.



The people rebelled against God and wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. After 40 years, they were brought to the promised land where God defeated their enemies.



God's people forget about God, His covenant with them, and His commands. They did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.



God's people demand to have a king like other nations. The first kings of Israel are established: King Saul, King David, and King Solomon.

BIBLE TIMELINE



Reference and review
the Bible timeline
during small group.



Foolish decisions resulted in God's people splitting into two separate kingdoms: Israel in the north and Judah in the south. Both kingdoms continued to rebel against God and worshiped false gods.



As punishment for their rebellion, God's people were conquered by other nations and taken into exile.



Even in exile, God never left His people. After 70 years, God allowed His people to return to their homeland.



For 400 years, there were no new prophets or books of the Bible written, but God was still at work preparing the way for the Messiah to come!



God sent His son Jesus to live a perfect life, die for people's sins, and rise again. During His life on earth Jesus performed miracles, healed, and told people about the Kingdom of God.



After Jesus ascended to heaven, the church was created. Peter, Paul, and the other Apostles taught the church about Jesus and how to live as members of God's family.



Today, the church continues spread the Gospel, teach God's Word, and make disciples. We eagerly wait for Jesus to return to earth.



One day Jesus will come back and will rule forever. He will rid the world of all evil and sin and create the new heaven and new earth where we will reign with Him forever.

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. Why do you think Peter wanted to walk out to Jesus?
2. What does Peter stepping out of the boat show us about his faith in Jesus?
3. What happened when Peter took his eyes off Jesus and began focusing on the waves and wind around him?
4. What can we do when we're tempted to doubt God's goodness and power?

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!