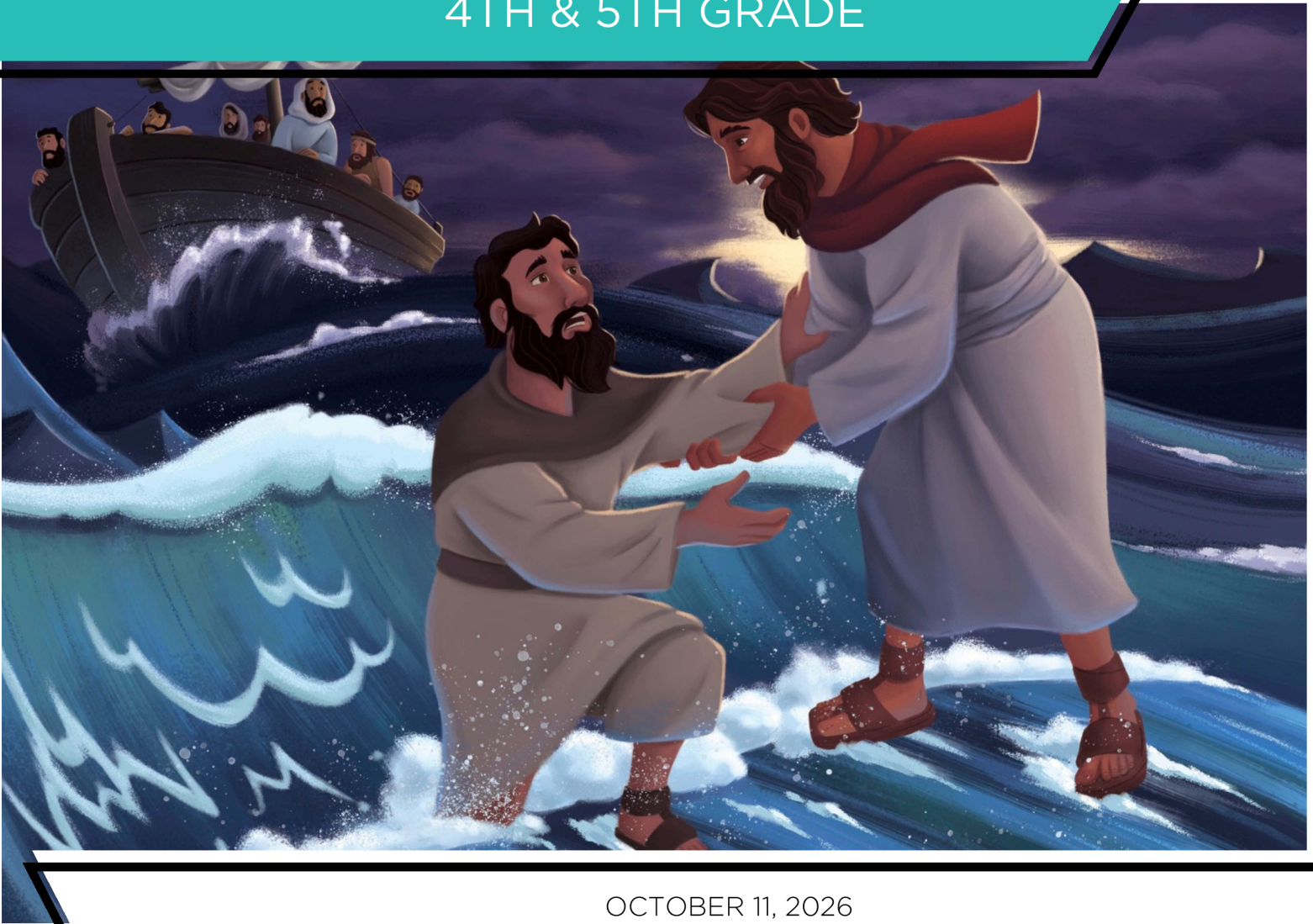


PRETEEN MINISTRY

4TH & 5TH GRADE



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.

LEADER DEVO

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.

ARRIVAL

When kids arrive, they can play in the game room, large group room, or the balcony area. They can go between the areas as they want until large group starts. Leaders should be spread out in these areas to watch kids. Use this time to interact with kids and build relationships with them. Ask them about their week, big events coming up, or follow up on a prayer request from the week before.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

THIS MONTH'S 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



**BIBLE
BUCKS**

NEXT BIBLE BUCKS DAY

OCT 25

There are many techniques and tools to help kids (and you!) memorize Scripture.

THIS MONTH'S TOOL: BIT BY BIT

When learning longer verses or entire passages, don't try to memorize the entire thing at once! Take it bit by bit and break the verse/passage up into smaller chunks. Start with the first five words and focus only on those. Once you have those memorized, add another five or so words, and so on.

LESSON

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.

SMALL GROUPS

OUR GOAL

To create opportunities that invite preteens to discover for themselves what it means to own and live out their faith.

DISCUSSION / APPLICATION

1) Why do you think Peter wanted to step out of the boat and walk to Jesus? What does this show us about his faith in Jesus?

2) How can we keep our eyes on Jesus each day?

Talk about spiritual disciplines like reading God's Word and praying each day.

3) What are some things that you find yourself being distracted by in the world?

4) How can you combat those distractions? What habits could you change or create to help with distractions? Is there something you need to avoid or seek accountability in?

5) What can we do when we're tempted to doubt God's goodness and power?

PICK UP

After small group, kids can play in the game room, large group room, or the balcony area. They can go between the areas as they want until they are picked up. Leaders should be spread out in these areas to watch kids. Use this time to interact with kids and follow up on any questions or discussions from small group time.

As parents arrive upstairs, direct them to the game room, large group room, or balcony to pick their kids up. Make sure to match their security code with their kid's name tag and remove the name tag before they leave!

CLEAN UP

- Put away any supplies used during small group.
- Turn off TVs and lights in the small group rooms.
- Turn off both air hockey tables and put away extra pucks or paddles.
- Gather any balls or other items left out in the game room and put them away in the correct bins.
- Put away any games, books, or supplies in the balcony area.
- Check for any items left behind by kids and put them in the lost and found.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!