

Lesson 10

Jesus Calms a Storm

Bible Text: Mark 4:1, 35-41; Matthew 8:23-27; Luke 8:22-25

Jesus reveals His authority as the Son of God when He calms a storm.

Bible Truth: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me.

Bible Verse: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4 (NIV)

For the Teacher

Jesus, the Son of God, took authority over nature and calmed the storm on Lake Galilee. Our storms may not be like those the disciples faced, but the same Lord Jesus knows what we are going through, and He is ready to calm our fears. No matter what happens, Jesus is still in control.

LESSON SEGMENT	TIME	SEGMENT DESCRIPTION	SUPPLIES & PREPARATION
Focus on God's Word	7 min.	Discussion	Pen and paper to list responses.
Memorize God's Word	8 min.	Bible Verse: Psalm 56:4 Bible Verse Activity: Say the Verse	Write the verse on a board. Paper plate: Draw a Happy face on one side and a scared face on the other.
Learn God's Word	18 min.	Mark 4:1, 35-41; Matthew 8:23-27; Luke 8:22-25	Visuals 10a, 10b. Practice telling the story with drama.
Bible Truth	8 min.	No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me. Object Lesson: Make a Storm	Bowl, water, vinegar, blue food coloring, baking soda, spoon, towel.
Connect with God's Word	12 min.	Discussion Prayer Response	List from Focus on God's Word.
Act on God's Word	10 min	Activity: Happy Face	Paper plate for each child, crayons, glue, Bible Verse and Bible Truth on strips of paper.
Review God's Word	10 min.	Review Questions Review Activity: Stop the Storm Activity: Act It Out Craft: Boat in a Storm	Board, eraser. Props to act out the Bible Story. A simple boat pattern with Jesus and the disciples in the boat, one sheet white paper, one sheet blue paper, craft sticks, glue, crayons, scissors.



FOCUS ON GOD'S WORD

Have you ever been walking down the street and a big dog came running toward you? How did you feel? (Allow responses.) Have you ever been home alone at night and all the lights went out? How did you feel? (Allow responses.) Have you ever been afraid because you heard noises outside your house and thought someone was trying to break in? (Allow responses.)

Have the kids share their feelings about other times when they were afraid. For example: during a thunderstorm, in a tornado/bomb shelter, first day at a new school, etc. Write their responses on a sheet of paper. You will need this for the Connect with God's Word section.



MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD

Bible Verse: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4

Prepare a paper plate. Draw a Scared Face on one side and Happy Face on the other side.

We all have times when we are scared. Even adults are afraid sometimes. Show the Scared Face on the paper plate. Turn to your neighbor and show them your scared face. (Pause.) What should we do when we are afraid? Our Bible verse has the answer. (Read the verse on the board.) "In God I trust; I will not be afraid." Psalm 56:4. (Have the kids repeat the verse with motions.)

In God *(point up)*

I trust *(clasp both hands together)*

I will not *(shake your finger)*

be afraid. *(thumbs down)* **Psalm 56:4**

God doesn't want you to be scared. He wants to give you a happy face. (Show the Happy Face side of the paper plate.) Show your neighbor a happy face. (Pause.) You all look great.

(Have the kids say the Bible verse again.)

Bible Verse Activity: Say the Verse

When life seems out of control, this is how our face might look. (Show the Scared Face side of the paper plate.) We must tell ourselves: Point to the verse on the board and have the kids say: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4 (Now show the Happy Face and have them say the verse after you read each of the following lines.)

- **When I am alone in the dark:** *the kids say: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4.*
- **When I have to go to the dentist:** *the kids say: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4.*
- **When I have a test to take:** *the kids say: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4.*
- **Because Jesus is with me:** *the kids say: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4.*

Today we will find out how the disciples of Jesus did in a storm. Did they have a scared face or a happy face? (Show the 2 faces on the paper plate.)



LEARN GOD'S WORD

(Open your Bible to Mark 4. Tell this story with much drama and action!)

One day Jesus was teaching by Lake Galilee. Many people came to hear Him. There was such a big crowd that Jesus had to go out on the lake in a boat and teach from there. All the people sat on the shore facing Him and listened to His words. (Mark 4:1)

That evening, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." So they left the crowd and the disciples started across the lake with Jesus in the boat. Jesus was very tired after such a long day, and He fell asleep on a cushion in the back of the boat. (Mark 4:35-41)

(Display picture 10a.) **As they sailed, strong gusts of wind suddenly swept down from the high hills around Lake Galilee. The wind was so strong that the waves rose higher and higher. They splashed over the sides of the boat and started filling it with water. How would you have felt if you were in that boat? Would you have been frightened? (Allow responses.)**

Some of the disciples were fishermen and they had certainly been in storms on the lake before. But this was such a terrible storm that they were all frightened. They were afraid that the boat would sink, and they would all drown if the waves didn't stop.

The storm was tossing the boat around and the disciples were panicking! But Jesus kept sleeping through it all! The disciples woke Him up and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we are about to drown?" (Display picture 10b.)

Then a most amazing thing happened. Jesus got up and said to the wind and waves, "Quiet! Be still!"

Can you guess what happened? (Allow responses.) Immediately the wind stopped blowing. The sea became calm. The boat stopped tossing on the lake. It was a miracle!

Then Jesus asked the disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Don't you believe that I can take care of you?"

Now the disciples were both frightened and amazed. They had never seen anything like this before. "Who is this? He gives orders to the wind and the waves, and they obey Him!"

The disciples had already seen Jesus do many miracles. They had seen Him heal the sick and turn water into wine, but they didn't know that Jesus had authority over nature, too. That night, the disciples realized once again that Jesus truly is the Son of God.

The disciples had been very afraid in the middle of that storm. They thought they were going to drown. But Jesus was with them, and He was concerned for them. He kept them safe.

Jesus is with us, too. He cares about us, and we can trust Him to help us when we are afraid. Remember our Bible verse? Let's say it together: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4

Turn to your friend and tell them: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4



BIBLE TRUTH

Bible Truth: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me.

The disciples were afraid of the big storm. They needed to learn our Bible Truth: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me.

Let's see what happens when we make a storm!

Object Lesson: Make a Storm

Items needed: a bowl, water, vinegar, baking soda, blue food coloring, spoon, towel.

Have the kids gather around the bowl. Put a towel under it. Put one cup of water and one cup of vinegar into the bowl. Add a few drops of blue food coloring and stir. Then add one tablespoon of baking soda. It will fizz like a storm. Add more baking soda and it will fizz again.

As you are doing the Object Lesson say: **When the storm came on the lake, the wind began to blow, and the waves grew bigger and bigger. The disciples forgot that Jesus is bigger than any storm. They forgot that: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me.**

When we are afraid, we can say to ourselves in a loud voice: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me. Let's say that together. Have the kids say the Bible Truth. Say it again louder!

If something scary is happening to us, we can say: *Have the kids say:* **No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me. When things around us don't make sense, we can say: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me.**



CONNECT WITH GOD'S WORD

Why do you think people get scared? *(Allow responses.) Possible answers: afraid they'll get hurt, worried about what will happen in the future, afraid to be alone, scared they won't have any friends, scared they won't have any food to eat.)*

What can we do when life seems to be out of control like in a storm?

(Allow responses.) Possible answers: say a Bible verse they have learned; ask their parents to pray for them; say Jesus' name out loud; think about today's lesson.

Write their responses on the board. Read all the responses again.

Then have each child choose one thing he can do during the week to remember that Jesus cares for him and is there to help him.

Have him say that one thing aloud.

Prayer Response

At the beginning of the lesson today we talked about some of the things that make us afraid. Some of us are afraid of the dark, being alone, going to the dentist. *(Refer to the list of things that make kids afraid. See Focus on God's Word section.)*

It doesn't matter what we are afraid of, Jesus is bigger than all those things.

Who cares for us? *Have the kids reply: Jesus.*

Who is bigger than the storm? *Have the kids reply: Jesus.*

Who can we trust to help us? *Have the kids reply: Jesus.*

Have the kids pray in small groups for each other.

Close by praying that the kids will know how much Jesus cares about them and wants to help them when they are afraid.

Leading a Child to Jesus: As the Holy Spirit leads, explain the plan of salvation and pray with those who want to accept Jesus as their Savior. (See Teacher's Guide p.3 Leading a Child to Jesus.)



ACT ON GOD'S WORD

Do you have a friend who doesn't know Jesus yet and is afraid of what might happen to them? What can you tell them from today's lesson? *(Have the kids discuss their ideas.)*

Do you have a sister or brother who is afraid of something – spiders or dogs maybe? What can you tell them to help them not be afraid? *(Allow responses.)*

Activity: Happy Face

Give each child a paper plate and strips of paper with the Bible Verse and Bible Truth. Have them draw a Scared Face on one side and glue on the Bible verse: In God I trust; I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:4

Have them draw a Happy Face on the other side and glue on the Bible Truth: No matter what happens, Jesus cares for me.

Encourage the kids to ask God for an opportunity to share the Bible Verse or Bible Truth with someone this week using the paper plate.



REVIEW GOD'S WORD

Review Questions

1. Where did Jesus want to go after teaching all day? (To the other side of Lake Galilee)
2. Who was in the boat with Jesus? (His disciples)
3. What happened out on the lake? (A storm came.)
4. Why were the disciples frightened? (They thought they were going to drown.)
5. What was Jesus doing during the storm? (He was sleeping.)
6. What did the disciples do? (They woke Jesus.)
7. How did Jesus stop the storm? (He ordered the sea and the wind to stop.)
8. Why were the disciples amazed? (The wind and the sea obeyed Jesus.)
9. Who is Jesus? (He is the Son of God.)

Review Activity: Stop the Storm

On the board draw two simple boats. Draw five waves beneath each boat.

Divide the class into two teams. Ask the review questions above, alternating between the teams.

For each correct answer, erase one wave from that team's picture.

Add more questions from previous lessons if needed. The first team to have all the waves erased wins.

Activity: Act It Out!

Retell the Bible story and let the kids be creative and have fun acting it out. They can climb onto a chair and pretend it is the boat. Rock around in the storm. Scoop water out of the boat. Wake up Jesus. Tell the wind to be quiet. Use fans to create wind. Use a water spray bottle. Hit pots for thunder.

Craft: Boat in a Storm

Prepare: a simple boat pattern which includes Jesus and the disciples, one sheet of white paper, one sheet blue paper per child, coloring pencils, scissors, glue, craft stick

Give each child a boat pattern with Jesus and the disciples in the boat.

Have the kids color the boat, Jesus, and the disciples and cut it out as one piece.

Glue a craft stick to the back of the boat.

Rip the blue paper in 3 lengthways to create 3 waves which will fit across the white paper.

Overlap the papers to make the waves.

Glue ONLY the ENDS of the waves onto the bottom half of the white sheet of paper. There will be a gap in the middle of the waves.

Insert the stick with the boat behind the waves. Use the stick to move the boat up and down.

Draw clouds and lightning in the sky to make it look like a storm.