



WEEK 3 - January 2021 - PRESCHOOL

Today's Bible Story: Jesus' power is amazing.

Calming the Storm • *Matthew 8:23-27*

Memory Verse: "Everyone who heard him was amazed." Luke 2:47, NIV

Key Question: Who is amazing?

Bottom Line: Jesus is amazing.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Make it Fun

Activities to help kids transition into the classroom and set up the bible story.

-Stormy weather

Make it True

Captivate kids with a bible story and help them understand how it connects to their world

-Large group time

Make it Stick

Activities and crafts that help kids personalize the story and apply the truths to their life.

-Voices in the storm
-Stop the storm
-All in the boat
-Journal and prayer

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. Stormy Weather

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

What You Need: Large flat plastic bin or water table, water, plastic tablecloth or shower curtain, several plastic toy boats, and towels

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cover the table or floor with a plastic tablecloth or shower curtain. Fill the bin or water table with three inches of water. Set the boats in the water.

During the Activity: Gather the children to stand around the water table. Demonstrate how to move your hand in the water to make waves and create a storm. Call on two children at a time to follow your example and create a storm in the bin. Continue calling on the children, two at a time, until everyone has a turn. Remember, ALWAYS supervise children around water. Have towels nearby for children to dry their hands as they finish their turn.

After the Activity: Pour out the water immediately or set out of reach of children.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Look at all these boats in the water. What do you think might happen to these boats if a big storm comes along? Let's see." (*Demonstrate.*)

During the Activity: "Whoa, looks like a big storm. I need two friends to keep the storm going. Don't worry, everyone will have a turn." (*Call on two children to make waves in the water.*)

After the Activity: "That was quite a storm! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about a boat caught in a storm. Let's go find out what happened!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to be boats, tossed about by a storm in the water. Encourage the children to keep moving forward and stay in a line as they move.

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: Jesus' power is amazing. In this week's teaching, we find Jesus and the disciples in a boat in the middle of a raging storm. Have no fear though! Jesus has

power over nature, and He used it to calm the storm. Even the disciples were asking, Who is this that even has power over the wind and waves? Jesus! That's Who! And, Jesus is amazing!

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Voice in the Storm

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Tape an outline of a boat on the floor in the activity area.

NOTE: If you do Activity #2, save the boat outline.

During the Activity: Ask the children to get in the boat and pretend to sail on calm waters. Then, ask the children to pretend a storm comes and hop out of the boat. Let the children act silly by moving their arms and legs all around. When you say, "STOP," the children freeze and say the memory verse together. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's go sailing! Everyone, hop in the boat." (*Point.*)

During the Activity: "Let's sail on the nice calm waters. (*Do activity.*) Oh, no! A storm is coming! Everyone, hop out of the boat and act like a crazy storm! (*Continue activity.*) STOP and FREEZE! Great job! Let's say our memory verse together." (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "Jesus calmed the storm in our Bible story today. Our memory verse tells us that Jesus says and does AMAZING things! **Who is amazing? [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!**"

2. Stop the Storm

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Tape a large outline of a boat on the floor, or if you did the "Voice in the Storm" Activity then use that boat.

During the Activity: Invite the children to get in the boat with you and help you act-out today's Bible story.

After the Activity: Talk about how amazing it is that Jesus has the power to stop a storm.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hi, friends! I’m so glad you’re here today. We heard an amazing story from the Bible about Jesus stopping a storm! Get in the boat with me so we can talk about it.”

During the Activity: “Is everyone in the boat? Good! Today, we’ll pretend we’re Jesus’ friends, the disciples, and this is a boat. We’re riding in the boat with Jesus, and there is water all around us. Let’s rock side-to-side like this (*demonstrate*) because our boat is floating on the water. (*Encourage the children to gently rock side-to-side with you.*)

“As we sail along, a big storm comes! It starts to rain and thunder, and the boat rocks even harder, like this! (*Encourage the children to rock in a big motion side-to-side with you.*) Being in a boat on the water during a big storm is very scary! Someone get Jesus! Tell Him we need help! Everyone say, ‘Help us, Jesus!’ (*Encourage the children to say, ‘Help us, Jesus!’ several times with you.*)

“Jesus stands up and tells the storm to stop . . . AND IT DOES! Look, there’s no more rain or thunder, and we’re rocking gently again. (*Encourage the children to gently rock side-to-side with you.*) Everyone say, ‘Thank you, Jesus! You are amazing!’” (*Encourage the children to say, ‘Thank you, Jesus! You are amazing!’ with you. Repeat acting-out the story if time allows.*)

After the Activity: “Jesus has the power to stop storms because Jesus is God’s Son. That makes Jesus amazing! **Who is amazing? [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!**”

3. All in the Boat

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

What You Need: “All in the Boat” Activity Page, cardstock, corrugated bulletin board border in two different blues, scissors, large craft sticks, crayons, double-stick tape, and stapler

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “All in the Boat” on cardstock and cut out, one per child. Cut bulletin board border into eight-inch lengths, two per child (one of each shade). Stack the two different blue borders together with the back border higher than the front and staple along each side.

During the Activity: Have children color the boat and the disciples. Tape the boat cutout to the craft stick and slide in between the two bulletin borders. Show children how to move the boat back and forth.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, have you ever been on a boat? Today in our story, Jesus and the disciples were on a boat when a big storm came. Let’s make a boat craft to help us remember the story.”

During the Activity: “Color your boat and the disciples. *(Pause.)* Now tape the boat to your craft stick. *(Pause.)* Slide the craft stick into the waves and move it around like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Keep it moving. When the disciples were out in the boat during the storm, they were scared. They asked Jesus to help. He stood up and told the storm to stop, and it did. Stop your boat. *(Pause.)* Jesus had the power to stop a storm.”

After the Activity: “Jesus is God’s Son, and He is out-of-this-world amazing. Only Jesus could stop a storm. **Who is amazing? [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing.**”

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Paperclipped “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible at Luke 2:47, journal, and fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time! Let’s pretend to row a boat to our small group spot like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Are you ready? Row, row, row your boats and follow me! *(Pretend to row a boat as you lead the children to your small group spot.)* Whew! We made it! Everyone, step out of your boat, and let’s sit down so we can talk about today’s Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! *(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)*

“Our Bible story was about Jesus telling a storm to stop . . . AND IT DID! That’s totally amazing! Everyone who saw Jesus do this was amazed. That’s why we’re learning this Bible verse. It says . . . *(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)*

“Everyone who heard him was amazed, Luke 2:47. *(Close Bible and lay it down.)* “Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL:

“Everyone *(arms out and around)*
who heard him *(hands behind ears)*
was amazed,’ *(hold hands like binoculars, open and shut)*
Luke 2:47.” *(Open hands like a book.)*

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: “Jesus can do amazing things because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] “Jesus is amazing!”**

SGL: *(cheering)* “Yes! **[Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!**”

“Okay, let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)*

“We all get scared sometimes. Even me! Strange dogs, a new babysitter, or bad storms, like the

one Jesus' friends were afraid of, can scare anyone. But guess what? We don't have to be afraid because another amazing thing about Jesus is that He is always with us. When I say your name, tell me one thing you're afraid of, and I will write it in our prayer journal. We can use our list when we pray. So, get ready to listen for your name and can tell me one thing you're afraid of.

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"Thank you for making this list with me. Let's use it when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to help us when we're afraid. Help [child's name] remember that Jesus is with [him/her] when [he/she] is afraid of [what child listed]. Help [child's name] remember that Jesus is with . . . *(continue with each child.)* Jesus is amazing, because He has the power to do anything! You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."

