

Week 3: The Disciples and the (Very Bad) Storm

What's the Story? One day, Jesus and his disciples were out on a lake in a boat. Suddenly, there was a terrible storm. It was so strong that water was coming into the boat. The disciples were afraid but Jesus was sound asleep.

They came and woke him, saying, "Lord, rescue us! We're going to drown!" He said to them, "Why are you afraid, you people of weak faith?" Then he got up and gave orders to the winds and the lake, and there was a great calm. (Matthew 8:25-26)

They were amazed and said, "What kind of person is this? Even the winds and the lake obey him!"

Moment of Weakness: I'm afraid.

Sometimes life gets really scary. We know we should trust God but it can be hard when we're afraid of what might happen. The disciples were with Jesus every day and saw him do many amazing things but, when their own storm came, they failed to trust him. Jesus used their moment of weakness to show his power and to remind them that there's no storm that we cannot handle when God is with us.

Prayer: Thank you, God, for being with us when scary things happen. Help us to have faith in you. Amen.

You can read the whole story in Matthew 8: 23-27 and also in Mark 4: 35-41 and Luke 8: 22-25. See if you can find any differences in these 3 accounts. Why do you think some stories are in the Bible more than once?

Table Talk:

From the story:

How do you feel about storms? Love them? Hate them? Afraid of them?

What is your biggest fear or phobia?

Who or what do you want with you when you're afraid?

Just for fun:

What is your favorite mode of transportation? (bike, car, plane, boat, etc.)

What is the coziest spot in your home?

What do you think is the greatest invention of all time?

What is your favorite time of the day?

Who snores the loudest in your family?

Family Challenge: Bubble Blowing Contest

The Goal: To blow the biggest bubble

The Options:

- Bubble Soap: Use bubbles and a bubble wand to see who can blow the biggest bubble.
- Bubble Gum: Forget bubble soap and use bubble gum instead! How big of a bubble can you blow before it pops on your face?

Step it Up: Design your own bubble wand or other device for making bubbles even bigger. Bubble soap can be poured into a baking pan or other large container to accommodate larger "wands."

Did you know? In Mrs. Price's Wee Center class, kids stand in a baby pool of bubble soap while Mrs. Price uses a hula hoop to pull bubbles up and around their bodies so that they're actually INSIDE a bubble!

Don't forget!

Send pictures and/or video to Jennifer to be included in our Summer Scrapbook!

Mrs. Price's Homemade Bubble Recipe:

1 Part Regular Dawn Dishwashing Liquid

10 Parts Water (distilled water works best. Hard tap water is no good for making bubbles!)

.25 Parts White Karo Syrup

For full-body, baby pool bubbles: 2 Cups Dawn, 20 Cups Water, 1/2 Cup Karo Syrup: Wrap 2 ace bandages around a hula hoop to make your "bubble wand." One child at a time stands very still inside the hula hoop in a baby pool of bubble soap while someone pulls the hoop upward to surround them with a giant bubble!