#### Lesson 9

#### Jesus Calms a Storm

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Matthew 8; Luke 8

MEMORY WORK:

Bible Skills 1-6

John 3:16

The 12 Apostles

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I can trust God to help me when I am afraid.

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|  **LESSON STARTS HERE** |

INTRODUCTION:

Have you ever been afraid? (Discuss with children for a few minutes.) What did you do when you were afraid? Who took care of you? One time, Jesus’ apostles were afraid, and He took care of them just like He takes care of us.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Jesus had been healing the sick and preaching to crowds of people all day. He knew that there were many people who needed His help, but He also knew that many of the people following Him were only interested in the “signs” or miracles He did—not in obeying His words. He was very tired and needed to get away from the crowds for a while. When evening came, Jesus told His disciples to get into a nearby boat with Him so that they all could go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, away from the crowds for a while.
2. Because He is God’s Son, Jesus undoubtedly knew that a storm was coming. But He was not worried or concerned at all. He went to the back of the boat and fell asleep. As is common on the Sea of Galilee, a fierce storm came up suddenly. The storm was so overwhelming that the boat in which they were sailing began to fill with water.
3. Remember that at least four of these disciples (the apostles) had been fishermen all their lives, making their living on this dangerous body of water. They were expert seamen, but they were afraid because the storm was so severe. They could not understand how Jesus could sleep through such a terrible storm. If He wasn’t concerned for His own safety, they thought He should have stayed awake and paid attention for their benefit. They had been with Jesus for quite some time and had seen Him perform many miracles. But in this situation, when they needed His help, they seem to have forgotten what great power He had.
4. In desperation and fear, the disciples finally woke Jesus, saying, “Teacher, don’t you care that we are about to die? Save us, Lord!” (Mark 4:38; Matthew 8:25). Jesus got up and spoke to the blustering wind and the surging waves, saying, “Peace [hush]; be still!” And immediately, everything became quiet and calm again. The storm was stopped by His word—just as God created all things in the beginning by His word. Then He turned to the disciples and said, “Why are you so afraid? Why do you have so little faith?” The disciples should have known by then, after hearing Jesus’ words and after all the miracles they had seen, that even in the most awful storm, Jesus was in control and had the power to help them. Read 1 Peter 5:7 and Philippians 4:6-7.
5. When the disciples saw the water and the wind become suddenly calm, they were even more afraid. They said to each other, “Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?” In spite of every miracle they had seen and every sermon they had heard Jesus preach, they still didn’t quite understand that Jesus was the all-powerful Son of the one and only, all-powerful God.
6. There are real dangers that we should be aware of and concerned with so that we can protect ourselves as best we can and stay safe. But there are other scary things around us, like big dogs, scary TV shows, bad dreams, thunder, the dark, etc. which usually aren’t really dangerous. When we are afraid, we should remember that the all-powerful Creator (the Master of the entire Universe) is with us, just like Jesus was with the apostles in that small boat. He has promised to be with us all the time. And He always keeps His promises! Read Titus 1:2

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces

* A Beka Flash-a-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book)
* Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file.
* See AP’s pinterest page for ideas. [www.pinterest.com/apcurriculum](http://www.pinterest.com/apcurriculum)
* Tales of Glory Apostle Figure Set,

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

**Master the Tempest is Raging (in Songbook)**

SUNDAY

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

##### Draw a Storm – Before telling the story ask students to draw a storm. Provide black paper and white crayons.

##### Help children make small sailboats from small Styrofoam blocks, small Ivory soap bar boxes, or banana split “boats” (use toothpicks for the “mast” and paper/glue for the “sails”). Write questions or clues on the sails of each boat for review, or use the boats before class to introduce thoughts about the lesson (i.e., talking about being in a boat during a storm, being afraid, etc.). Put the sailboats in a small pool (or washtub).

##### Ocean in a bottle. Fill a clear, 2-liter bottle half full with water, add a few drops of blue food coloring, and the rest with cooking oil Seal and glue lid. Have the children make large waves by turning the bottle. (don’t shake)

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [Review Questions](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/4-24-32RQ.pdf) for example questions.)

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

##### Boat Review Game: Have toy boats in a tub of water with a number written on the bottom of each boat. Let a child pick a boat and the teacher read that number’s review question and see if the child can answer it correctly.

##### Have children share a time when they were scared.

### Review Questions

### Is it okay to be afraid?

### Yes, but we should remember that Jesus is always with us.

### Why did Jesus want to get away from the people for a while?

### He felt they were only interested in seeing the miracles He was doing, and not in obeying His Word.

### What did Jesus ask His disciples to do?

### Get into a nearby boat to sail to the other side of the Sea of Galilee

### What was an occupation of some of the disciples?

### Fishermen

### What did Jesus do when He got on the boat?

### He went to the back of the boat and went to sleep.

### What happened on the Sea of Galilee?

### A fierce storm came up suddenly and began to fill the boat with water.

### Were the disciples afraid?

### Yes. They could not understand how Jesus could be sleeping through the storm.

### What did they say to Jesus when they woke Him up?

### “Teacher, don’t you care that we are about to die? Save us Lord.”

### What did Jesus do?

### He got up and spoke to the wind, saying, “Peace be still.”

### What happened then?

### The sea immediately became quiet and calm.

### What did Jesus ask His disciples?

### “Why are you so afraid? Why do you have so little faith?”

### Should the disciples have known Jesus would take care of them?

### Yes

### What did the disciples realize when they saw the sea become calm again?

### They realized just how powerful and wonderful Jesus, the Son of God, is.

### Additional Notes / Activities Performed & Curriculum Feed Back

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