

Virtual Sunday School Lesson

Jesus Walks on Water (Matt/Mark/John)



Bible Verses (NIV):

Matthew 14: 22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

Mark 6:45-56

Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

When evening came, the boat was out on the lake, and he was alone on the land. When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came towards them early in the morning, walking on the lake. He intended to pass them by. But when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought it was a ghost and cried out; for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Then he got into the boat with them and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

John 6:16-24

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

Activity: Float vs Sink

Theme: Keep your eyes on Jesus and trust in him

Supplies: A bucket of water, different items that float or sink. Try to find some surprise items, like a boat that sinks.

Lesson:

Place the bucket of water on the middle of the table, presenting each item one at a time and have the children vote to see if an item will float or sink. Let the children take turns putting objects in the water and taking them out.

Can you float in water? (*yes, on your back*)

What about walk on water? No? Why? (Let children respond)

Jesus did.

It was just after Jesus fed the 5000. Jesus wanted to stay behind to say goodbye to the people and pray alone, so he told his disciples to take a boat across the Sea of Galilee to the land of Gennesaret; and he would follow. Jesus didn't say how he would follow.

Storms are common in the Sea of Galilee and a strong wind kept the disciples from sailing across the lake. They fought most of the night, but got nowhere. Suddenly they saw an image moving towards them on the rough sea; it came closer and closer. It was an image moving along the top of the water.

The disciples cried out "IT IS A GHOST!"

How would you react if you saw something like that? (Let children respond)

Then the disciples heard a familiar voice, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid". IT WAS JESUS.

The disciples were amazed, Jesus was walking on top of the water.

Then Peter did something shocking... he asked Jesus if he could walk on water too. So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

As long as Peter had his eyes focused on Jesus, he was actually walking on water. It was only when he looked away that his faith weakened and began sinking.

We can learn a lot from Peter. As long as we focus on Jesus and let him guide us, we too can walk safely thru the storms in our lives. It is when we take our eyes off Jesus that we run into trouble.

Closing Prayer:

Dear Father, all of us are afraid at times. Help us to place our faith in Jesus, so we have nothing to fear. Amen.

Thanks to www.ministry-to-children.com

Video: Gracelink: Walking on Water <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKAVVmWhfdM>

By keeping our eyes on Jesus, we are saved.

Duration: 5:12

Craft: Jesus on the Waves

Supplies: white cardstock, Crayons/markers, scissors, glue, craft stick

Directions: Color the white cardstock to look like a stormy sky. Cut out the pieces. If

wanting to move Jesus along the water, cut along dotted line on the taller waves.

Apply glue to the back of the taller waves, above the dotted line and in the middle on the right side, and place along the bottom edge of the background. Apply glue to the boat and slide underneath the wave caps on the right. Apply glue to the bottom of the taller waves (below the dotted line) and put the smaller waves in place. Glue the mast, sail and cloud in place. Glue the craft stick to the back of Jesus. Place the craft stick in the slot, so Jesus can move back and forth.

Option: for preschool, instead of the craft stick, just glue Jesus between the layers of waves (no craft stick required)

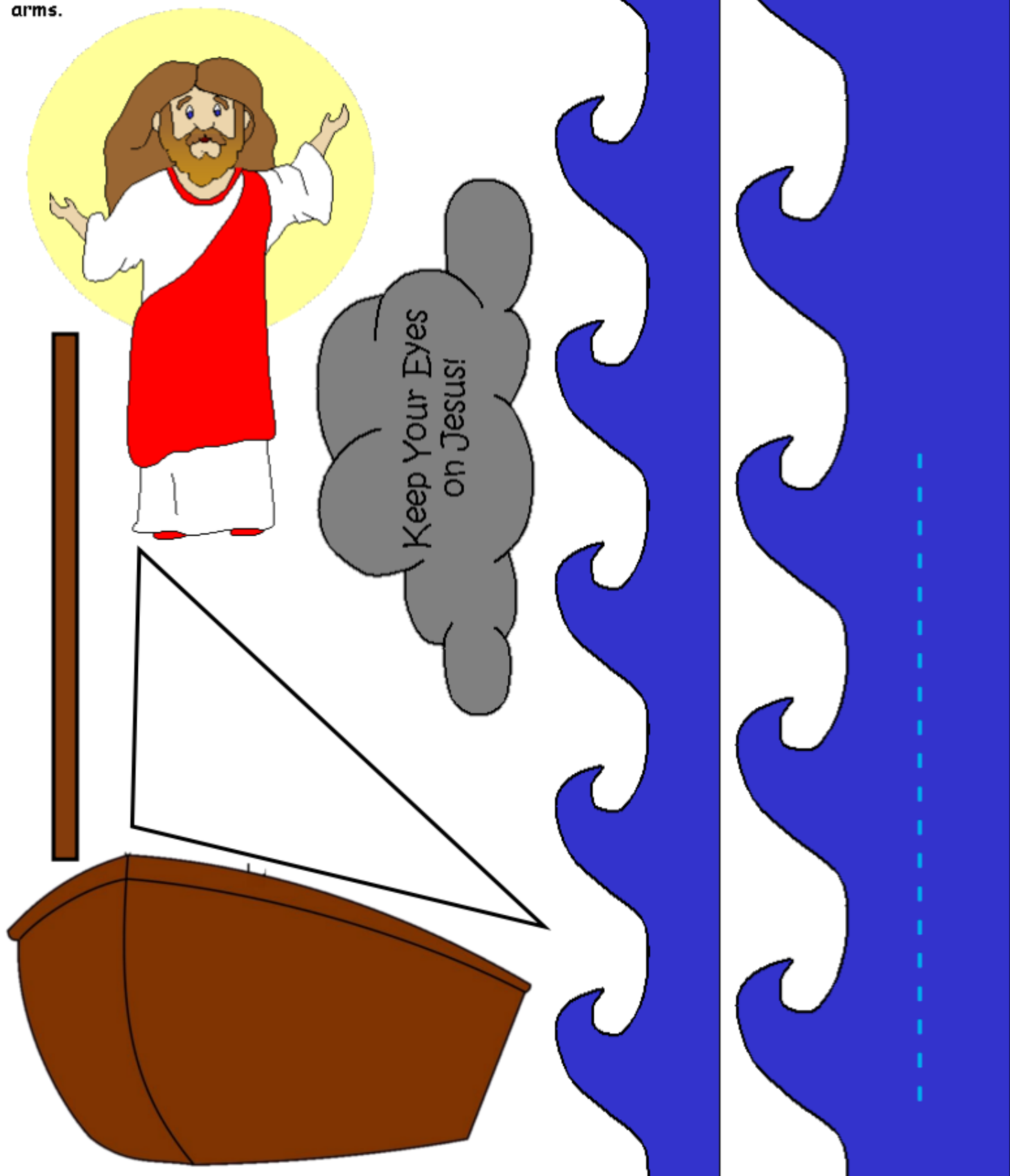
Thanks to <https://www.dltk-kids.com/>



Jesus Walks on Water

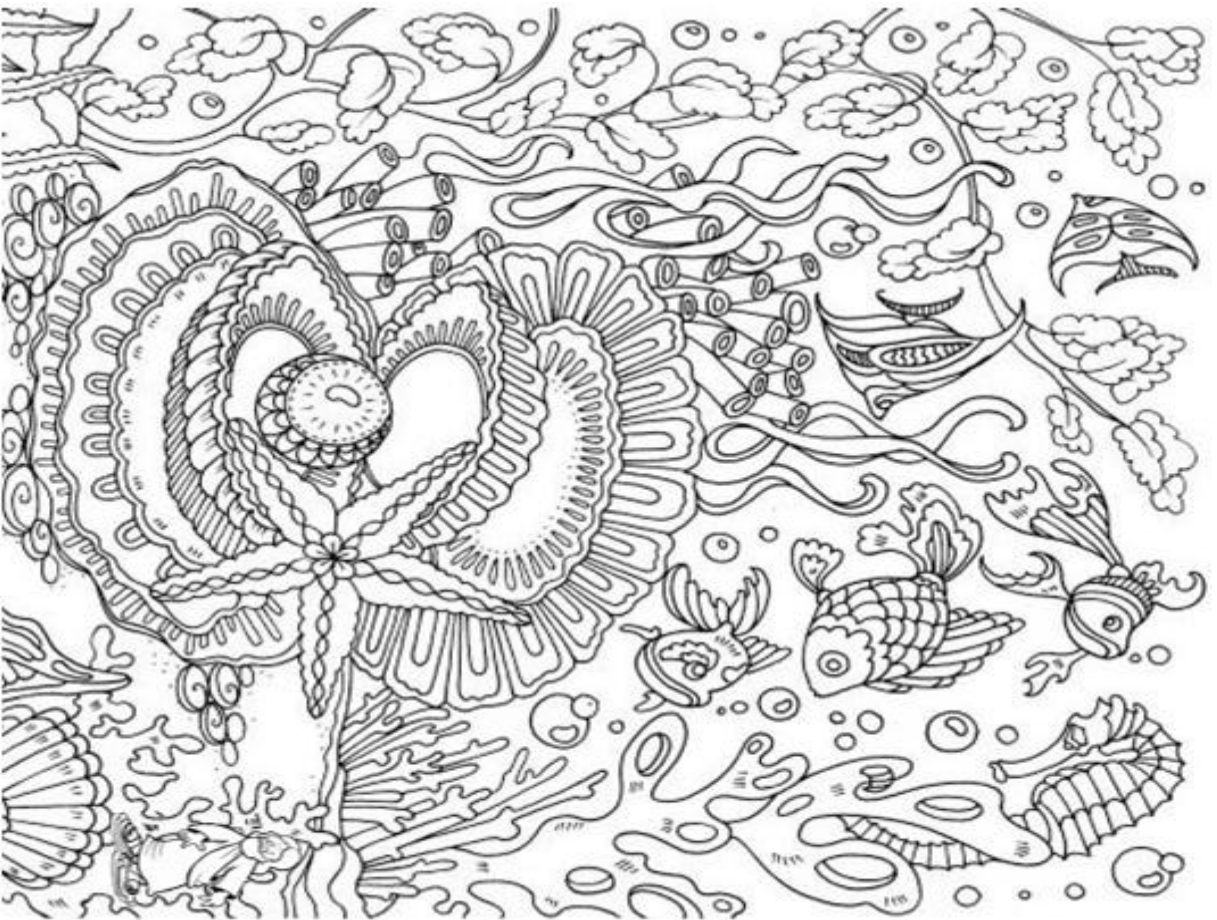
Jesus on Water

Young children will find it easier to cut around Jesus' halo than cutting out his arms.





Jesus walked on Water.



Peter sank in the water because he took his eyes off Jesus. In life, there are so many distractions that we often lose sight of Jesus in our lives. Can you find Jesus in this picture?

Jesus Walks on the Water

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. Matthew 14:25 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| H | V | S | L | F | P | X | Z | A | I | N | W | C | R | D | U | Q | J | M | Y | O | K | G | T | E | B |

- 26-21-9-24 _____
- 12-10-11-15 _____
- 12-9-24-25-14 _____
- 5-9-10-24-1 _____
- 9-5-14-9-10-15 _____
- 3-10-11-22 _____
- 12-9-2-25-3 _____
- 5-25-9-14 _____
- 12-9-4-22-10-11-23 _____
- 4-9-22-25 _____

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|------|---------|------|---------|-------|
| BOAT | WIND | SINK | WATER | FAITH |
| LAKE | WALKING | FEAR | AFFRAID | WAVES |