

LESSON 1

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Has Power over Creation

SCRIPTURE: Mark 4

GOD'S BIG STORY: Jesus demonstrates His power over creation when He commands the wind and the waves to be still, and they obey!

WORD OF WONDER: How great God is! We'll never completely understand Him. —Job 36:26a

Object Lesson: Toy Boat

Activity: Parachute Play

Worship

God's Big Story

Word of Wonder

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Boat in a Storm

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Object Lesson: Toy Boat

SUPPLIES: toy boat, bin of water (optional), towel (optional)

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church. If using water, fill a bin with water and set out a towel. Put a toy boat in the water.

Welcome! We're going to talk today about a time when a big storm made big waves in the water. A boat (hold up a toy boat) like this was in the middle of the water. What do you think happens to boats when storms make big waves? Allow the kids to respond.

Talk with the kids about what might happen to a boat. Let each kid have a turn holding the boat and show what might happen if the boat got caught in a storm. Let the kids play with the boat. If you have water, let them take turns using their hands to make “waves” in the water, or they can push the boat around in the water. Be sure to place the water out of reach after this activity.

Activity: Parachute Play

SUPPLIES: small parachute (or blanket or bedsheet), toy boat

In God's big story today, we'll see how Jesus had power over creation by stopping a storm and the waves. Let's play a game where we pretend our boat is in the middle of a big storm.

Lay the parachute (or blanket or bedsheet) on the floor and have the kids stand around the outside edge. Place a toy boat in the middle of the parachute. Demonstrate how to move the parachute up and down slowly and quickly, bouncing the boat around. You can add sound effects for more fun.

You did a great job of helping make waves for our boat. Storms are powerful, but we'll see that Jesus is more powerful than anything—even storms!

Our Wonder Truth today is: JESUS HAS POWER OVER CREATION.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

JESUS—Point up.

HAS POWER—Make muscles.

OVER CREATION—Make a big circle with your hands over your head.

Make It Inclusive: Young children who are developing gross (large) motor skills will have fun with this activity. If they can't hold onto the parachute to move it up and down, encourage them to jump up and down or clap their hands as you move and make waves with the parachute.

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Now That's a Miracle! Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we'll learn about how Jesus has power. Let's sing about Jesus and praise Him!

Play songs from the [Now That's a Miracle! Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, parachute (or blanket or bedsheet), toy boat, blue streamers or ribbons

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Jesus Calms the Storm God's Big Story Video](#), Bible Story Picture (optional)

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about Jesus and His followers who were on a boat. His followers are the disciples. Encourage the kids to say, "disciples." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened.**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the script provided. You can also print the Bible Story Picture to use as a visual as you tell the story.

Spread a parachute (or blanket or bedsheet) out on the ground. Invite kids to sit around the parachute with you and put a toy boat on it. Give the kids blue streamers they will use to represent the wind in today's story. Let the kids practice waving their streamers around slowly and quickly. Then have them put the streamers down in front of them until it's time in the story.

Jesus and His friends, the disciples, were in a boat in the middle of a big lake. Jesus was teaching people all day, and He was tired, so He laid down in the boat and went to sleep. Can you all pretend to go to sleep? Pause to allow the kids to respond. Gently move the parachute or bedsheet to make the boat move. **While He was sleeping, a big storm came. The wind picked up. Pick up your streamers and pretend that it's just a little windy.** Demonstrate how to wave the streamers slowly like in a slow wind. **But then the storm got worse, and the wind started blowing even harder.** Demonstrate how to wave the streamers faster. Move the parachute (or blanket or bedsheet) more to make the boat toss and turn.

The disciples were afraid of the storm. They woke up Jesus. Jesus got up and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" (Mark 4:39). The storm and the waves stopped, and everything became calm! Encourage the kids to lay down their streamers and freeze. Stop moving the parachute.

The disciples learned even the wind and waves obey Jesus! The storm stopped when Jesus told it to stop. Jesus is more powerful than the storm! Jesus has power over everything—the weather, storm, and all of creation.

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Now That's a Miracle! Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#)

Display the Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#), if using. **Our Word of Wonder for the Now That's a Miracle! series is Job 36:26a. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.**

WORD OF WONDER

How great God is! We'll never completely understand Him.

—Job 36:26a

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **HOW GREAT**—Put one arm straight up for each word.
- **GOD IS!**—Point up.
- **WE’LL NEVER**—Cross arms back and forth in front of you.
- **COMPLETELY**—Bring both arms down from above you to your sides.
- **UNDERSTAND**—Point to your head with both hands.
- **HIM.**—Point up.
- **JOB 36:26a**—Hold your hands together in front of you, palms open, as if opening a book.

Prayer and Blessing

When I say the word “afraid,” you can make a scared face. Show a scared face and let toddlers try to mimic your expression. **When I say, “Jesus,” you can show your muscles.** Demonstrate flexing your muscles. **Let’s talk to God.**

God, thank You for taking care of us when we’re afraid (scared faces). Thank You for reminding us that Jesus (show muscles) has power over creation and is with us. We love You. In Jesus’ (show muscles) name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you remember this week that the Jesus who controls the wind and waves also walks with you. There is nothing too big for Him to handle!

Activity: Boat in a Storm

SUPPLIES: parachute (or blanket or bedsheet), small balls or toy boat

Lay the parachute (or blanket or bedsheet) on the floor. Have the kids sit around the parachute and pretend it’s the water. Place some small balls or a toy boat onto the parachute. Let the kids gently move the parachute or bedsheet to make the balls or boat go up and down. When you say, “Be still!” they should stop.

In our story today, a storm made big waves that made water go into the boat. The disciples were scared. But then they woke up Jesus. Then they didn’t have to worry anymore because Jesus stopped the storm just by talking to it. Jesus has power over creation!