

Preschool Small Group

Day 2



Today's Bible Story

Jesus walks on water
Matthew 14:22-33

Bottom Line

Jesus helps us
trust Him.

Memory Verse

John 14:6 (NIV):
"Jesus answered, 'I am
the way and the truth
and the life.'"

Small Group Leader Guide Day 2

Kingdom Quest VBS

Jesus Walks on Water

Today's Bible Story

Jesus walks on water
Matthew 14:22-33

Bottom Line

Jesus helps us trust Him.

Key Question

Why can I trust Jesus?

Theme

FAITH

Preparing for the Day

Set up the room:

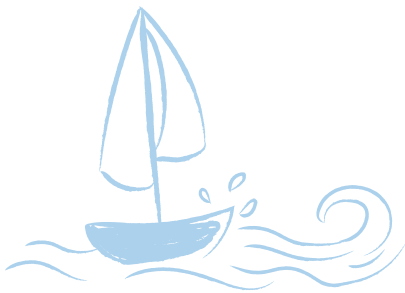
- Lay the blue fabric across the floor for the "Unsteady Path" opening activity. Place the stepping stone at the edge of the fabric.
- Keep a fan nearby for the Bible Story Review to create "wind and waves."
- Set up the boat and any other props for story retelling.
- Have the craft station ready with pre-cut "Slide Left and Right" pieces, crayons, markers, and glue/tape.

Tips for leaders:

- Reinforce the Bottom Line: **Jesus helps us trust Him**. Use the phrase often.
- Keep it active and visual. Use gameboard or quest language and actions when possible. Get creative!
- Use short, big motions and call-and-repeat phrases to maintain attention. Examples:
 - **Leader:** "Who can we trust?" → **Kids:** "Jesus!"
 - **Leader:** "Step by step!" → **Kids:** "Trust Jesus!"
- Use movement: Have kids stand for answers, use hand motions, repeat key words and phrases.
- Give short, specific choices rather than open questions.
- Use redirection and praise bravery/positive behavior:
- Use Crew Leaders and Assistant Leaders.
 - Give clear instructions to the other leaders in the room, too! They won't know how to help unless you tell them.

Kingdom Quest Coloring Sheets:

- Each child will have a coloring sheet that matches today's Bible story.
- Encourage kids to show it to their parents and talk about the story.
- Kids who bring their coloring sheets back each day can receive a sticker.



What You Need

- Themed stickers/tattoos to give kids who brought back their KQ Log
- Blue fabric, or plastic tablecloth (to represent water)
- One stepping stone prop (foam square, cardboard tile, or taped square)
- Optional soft background wind or ocean sound
- **Day 2 Bottom Line Poster (1/station)**

Welcome (1-2 minutes)

Welcome to Day 2! I'm [name], your Small Group Quest Guide for the week.

This week we are on Kingdom Quest to discover God's Kingdom. Yesterday, we learned that **Jesus invites us to follow Him**. Point to Day 1 Bottom Line Poster. Can you repeat that with me? Repeat Day 1 Bottom Line together. Today we are learning: **Jesus helps us trust Him!** Repeat it with me: **Jesus helps us trust Him!**

Opening Activity (1-3 minutes)

The Unsteady Path

How You Prepare

- Lay the blue fabric across the floor in the middle of crews.
- Place the stepping stone at the edge of the "water."
- Leader stands on the stone. Assistant quietly positions themselves near the fabric.

What You Do

Friends, look right here.

Step onto the stone.

I am standing on something strong and steady. This feels safe.

Assistant gently ripples fabric.

But look at the water. It's moving!

Start to rock and wiggle slightly.

Sometimes things feel wiggly.

Assistant wiggles fabric a little more.

Have you ever felt scared? Maybe during a storm? Or in the dark?

Keep rocking/moving.

When you feel nervous, you want someone who can help and keep you safe.

Step off the stone briefly and look at water.

In our story today, the disciples were in a boat. The wind was strong. The waves were big.

Assistant makes bigger waves for 3 seconds.

Step confidently back on the stone.



What You Need

- Blue fabric or table cloth (from opening activity)
- toy boat
- fan (the louder the better)
- table

But Jesus was there to help them. Jesus helped them trust Him.
Step back onto the stone, standing confidently.

And Jesus helps us trust Him too.

Jesus didn't just tell them to trust harder. He helped them trust Him.
That's what we are talking about today – Jesus helps us trust Him!

Bible Story Review (3–5 minutes)

How You Prepare

- Spread blue fabric on the table.
- Place boat on top.
- Position fan to blow toward boat.
- Keep fan control near assistant.

What You Do

- Retell story using movement and sound.
- Turn fan on and off for storm moments.
- Keep interaction simple and guided.

What You Say

Before we talk about today's story, let's do our Kingdom Quest Chant together. Repeat after me.

Use hand motions to add more engagement to this chant.

Jesus invites us to follow Him—I follow His light! *(Kids repeat)*

Called on a quest to do what's right! *(Kids repeat)*

Step by step, I trust and obey! *(Kids repeat)*

His Kingdom grows in me each day! *(Kids repeat)*

In our story today, Jesus had a busy day. He helped many people.
Move boat slightly.

He told His friends to get into a boat. He went to pray.

Assistant turns fan on low.

The wind started to blow.

Move fabric gently.

The water got wavy.

Leader Tip:

Show emotion as you tell the story. Use voice inflection, facial expressions, and movement to keep kids engaged.

Turn fan up slightly. Talk louder over the noise.

The waves got bigger. The boat rocked.

Rock boat carefully.

Show me your scared face.

Pause and react.

The disciples were afraid. But then they saw someone walking on the water.

Put a hand over your eyes like you are looking for something.

It was Jesus.

Assistant lowers fan slightly.

Peter said, "Jesus, can I come to You?"

And Jesus said, "Come."

Move boat aside slightly and walk around to the front of the table.

Peter stepped out of the boat.

Take one careful step forward to model.

He was walking on water!

Pause for effect.

But then Peter looked at the wind. He felt scared again.

Assistant turns fan back up.

Slowly lower hand and crouch down like you are sinking.

He started to sink.

But right away, Jesus reached out and helped him.

Assistant turns fan down.

Jesus did not let him sink. When Peter looked at Jesus, he walked.

When he focused on the storm, he sank.

When Peter looked at Jesus, was he okay?

Guide them to say yes.

When he felt scared, did Jesus help him?

Yes.

Jesus helps us trust Him! Even when things are scary or shaky.

Say that with me: Jesus helps us trust Him.

Prayer & Reflection

(2-3 minutes)

What You Say

Friends, let's get our bodies ready to talk to God.

Sit criss-cross on the floor. Hands in your lap. Eyes looking up here.

Let's make our bodies still and our voices quiet.

Pause and model stillness.

Take a deep breath with me. In through your nose... and out through your mouth.

Repeat once more.

We're going to say a prayer together as we think about how Jesus helps us trust Him.

Everyone put your hands over your heart and close your eyes. Now, repeat after me.

Jesus, You are strong. Kids repeat.

You are with me when I feel scared. Kids repeat.

Okay, now open your eyes. This time, hold your hands out in front of you like you are reaching for someone to hold your hand. Close your eyes and repeat after me.

You have the power and you know the way. Kids repeat.

Jesus, you help us trust you. Kids repeat.

Okay, open your eyes.

In our story today, the wind was loud and the waves were big. But Jesus was stronger than the storm.

When we feel scared or unsure, Jesus is with us. He is strong, and He helps us trust Him.

Clasp your hands together and close your eyes one more time as I pray for you now.

Jesus, thank You for helping us trust You. Thank You for being stronger than anything that scares us. Help my friends keep their eyes on You, follow You even when things feel hard, and know You are always with them. Help them be brave, confident, and full of faith. Amen.

What You Need

- Bottom Line Label 1/kid
- "Slide Base" Activity Page (1/kid)
- "Slide Left and Right" Activity Page (1/ every 2 kids)
- Coloring supplies
- Kingdom Quest Take Home Sheet (1/kid)

Leader Tip:

Crew leaders will most likely need to help with getting the Jesus and Paul pictures through the slits.

Craft (12-15 minutes)

Jesus Reaches Us

How You Prepare

- Cut out Jesus and Peter strips from the "Slide Left and Right" Activity page.
- Cut two slits along the dotted lines on the "Slide Base" Activity page.
- Group together so each kid has one "Slide Left and Right" page, one Jesus, and one Peter strip.

What You Do

- Kids will color/decorate the Slide base, and Peter and Jesus strips first.
- Then, lead the kids in assembling the craft:
 - Direct them to slide the tab end of the Jesus picture through the slit in the paper from the left side.
 - Direct them to slide the tab of the Peter picture through the slit in the paper from the right side.
 - Then, show them how to flip over their paper and fold on the dotted lines. This prevents the papers from sliding out.
- Demonstrate how to move Jesus and Peter closer to each other!

What You Say

Watch this! When you slide Jesus and Peter, they move closer together—just like in our story.

The disciples were stuck in a boat in a big storm, but Jesus didn't stay far away. He walked on the water to be with them. Slide Jesus closer to the boat.

Peter stepped out of the boat and tried to walk on the water too! Slide Peter toward Jesus.

Oh no! Peter got scared by the wind and waves, but Jesus reached out and saved him. Slide Peter into Jesus' hands.

Even when we feel scared or unsure, Jesus is always with us. He helps us trust Him

Kingdom Quest Take Home Sheet

Give each child a Kingdom Quest Take Home Sheet and encourage them to show their parents and bring back the bottom part for a sticker tomorrow!