

Peace

[Jesus Calms the Storm]



THE BIG IDEA

We don't need to be afraid when Jesus is with us.

MEMORY VERSE

See Resource FOS4 Ideas for Learning Memory Verses.



Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

KEY VERSE

Mark 4:39 (ESV)



And He awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Peace, Be still!' And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.



READ

Mark 4:35-41



DISCUSSION

Discuss the following questions with the children. Depending on numbers divide the children into groups and have leaders, lead the discussion.

1. If you were in a little boat on the sea during a big storm, how would you feel?
2. Would you be scared?
3. When have you felt scared, worried, like you are in a storm?
4. How did you feel when what was worrying or scaring you is gone?
5. What is peace?
6. Have you ever felt a sense of peace in your life before?
7. How can God bring you peace?

Resources

▶ Praise Songs



See Resource FOS5

Love, Joy, Peace, by Shelley Spiers

YouTube

Fruit of the Spirit Children's Song

https://bit.ly/FOS_Song

Peace Like a River

https://bit.ly/FOS_Song2

▶ Games



See Resource FOS1

Toss The Boat

Running Quiz

▶ Craft



See Resource FOS3

Peace Apple

▶ Programme Card

Weather

https://bit.ly/AB_Weather

▶ Video

Jesus Calms the Storm

<https://bit.ly/vid-storm>



The Talk

Tell the story of Jesus calming the storm. You could use a children's illustrated Bible, a video clip or use this summary of the Bible story.

Suggested props:

- Give the children steamers to act out the stormy waves;
- Use a parachute while telling the story - children sit around the edge holding the parachute. Use an inflatable as a 'boat' on the parachute. The children can gently flap the parachute when the waves are small and then create big 'waves' during the storm.
- Use a toy boat in a dish or water - blow through a straw to create waves.

Jesus had been busy talking to crowds of people. It was late in the day and Jesus asked his disciples to take him to the other side of the lake, maybe for some peace and quiet. They got into the boat and set sail across the lake.

All of sudden, a huge storm whipped up and the boat rocked from side to side. Water crashed into the boat and the disciples were really scared. Many of the disciples were fishermen and had probably seen lots of storms before but this one must have been bad to make them so afraid.

Amid all the drama of the storm, guess what Jesus was doing? He was asleep in the boat! The disciples woke him up. 'Wake up and help us! The boat is going to sink and we're all going to drown', pleaded the frightened disciples.

Jesus woke up and commanded the wind the waves to be still. The disciples watched as the wind calmed down and the waves got smaller and smaller until eventually it was peaceful on the lake once again. Wow! Jesus is so powerful he can even change the weather.

When all was calm Jesus scolded his disciples for being afraid when they had Jesus in their boat. He said, 'Why are you such cowards? Don't you have any faith at all?' (Mark 4:39-40 The Message). The disciples had Jesus in their boat so they didn't need to be afraid. If we love Jesus and have asked him to be our forever friend then we don't need to be afraid either. We don't have Jesus right beside us in person but He has promised to be with us wherever we go. We can't see him but He's there helping His friends today just like he did with His disciples.

The disciples in the boat with Jesus that night were totally amazed by what they had seen. Jesus had calmed a raging storm just by telling the wind to stop. They realised the Jesus was someone very special, He is God's son.

The disciples had been on lots of adventures with Jesus and saw Him do some amazing things but they didn't always understand. When He calmed the storm, they saw His power in action. It was very real because they were right there in the boat, feeling scared and Jesus calmed the storm right in front of them.

Jesus is more powerful than a storm and the disciples forgot that when they panicked. Sometimes we are like that too. When bad things happen to us or we feel a bit scared, we forget that we have a friend who can help us with anything. He might not take the scary thing away for us, but He will help us to feel calm and able to cope. We need to trust that God is in control.

