

## Teaching Plan - Jesus calms the storm

**Aim** - To show that Jesus is able to deal with all situations



### Welcome



**Bible reading:** Mark 4:35-41



### Game/Activity and Craft



Make storm sound effect 'instruments' as a craft to use during the evening.

Make shakers - plastic bottle or other containers filled with rice.  
Blow across hollow tubes or empty bottles.

Put a marble in an empty plastic bottle and seal it tightly. Roll the marble around.

Clap foil trays together or hit them with a drumstick

**And**

### A weather game with actions

Leader calls out the weather and group does the actions

**Wind** - stand and sway

**Rain**- hands clasped above head to provide shelter (could sing singing on the rain)

**Sun** - mime putting on sunglasses

**Thunder** - hands over ears

**Calm** - stand completely still



## Drama

Use a parachute or sheet - people take hold of it and make look like calm sea, then little waves, big waves then calm.

One day Jesus and his friends, sometimes called disciples, had been working very hard and they were tired. They needed to go to the other side of the loch and decided to go in their boat. Jesus was very tired, so he curled up at one end of the boat and went to sleep - he found a cushion and used it as a pillow. The disciples rowed the boat.

After a while the disciples noticed that the gentle breeze had become stronger and it was now quite windy. The calm sea started to get bumpy with small waves, then the wind blew harder and the sea began to get a bit rougher. But the disciples weren't too worried; they had often sailed in rough seas. As they continued to sail along, the wind grew stronger, the waves grew bigger, and some of the disciples were getting anxious and worried. *(Make frightened expressions.)* The storm grew worse and soon the wind was rushing round them and the waves were crashing against the sides of the fishing boat. The boat was moving from side to side as if it might turn right over. One of them said 'What shall we do?' Another said, 'The boat's going to sink!'. They all shouted, 'We'll all be drowned!'. More huge waves were coming up behind them and if one crashed on the boat it would swamp them. They looked where Jesus still lay asleep in the boat and together, they shook him awake. *(All shout Jesus, Jesus, we're going to drown!)* Jesus woke up and felt the boat rocking violently in the wind. Jesus stood up and shouted, 'Waves, be calm! Wind, stop blowing!'

The waves and wind died down. The boat stopped going up and down. The disciples were amazed and afraid that Jesus was powerful enough to calm the water and stop the wind. They had discovered that Jesus had God's power.



## Talk

### In the Storm

Think of different kinds of boat - great in calm seas. Jesus was in a small rowing boat - with his friends. Jesus was tired and fell asleep - his friends were rowing.

Think of rough seas.

Everyone got scared - Jesus kept on sleeping - he was not scared. Friends woke him up - Jesus we're scared - we're going to drown. What did Jesus do - He stood up and told the storm to stop - everything calmed down and they got to land safely.

In our lives we have calm times - all going well - life seems easy and good - praise God. We can say life is wonderful.

But there are other times when life is not so good - we feel a bit like being in the stormy seas - let's think about some of the problems we might have

- We are not feeling well and scared about what is wrong with us - maybe we have to go to hospital or doc to get some treatment.
- A friend or family has died and we miss them.
- Things are changing - maybe in our homes, at our work or somewhere else - we don't know what the changes will be like.
- People say and do unkind things to us and we don't understand why.
- We feel lonely and different and feel other people don't understand us or care.

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What does the story teach us?

That Jesus will always be with us - in good times and in hard times. When our heads are full of worries, we feel scared and frightened -

Jesus says calm down - I am with you and you're safe with me. So, it's true that we do have times when life is rough - it's hard but remember to ask Jesus for his peace - if we ask him, he will give it to us.

**John 14:27**

**Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)**

<sup>27</sup> "I leave you peace. It is my own peace I give you. I give you peace in a different way than the world does. So don't be troubled. Don't be afraid.

**Philippians 4:6**

**Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)**

<sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks for what you have.



### **Prayer Time**

Use the following as a lead into a prayer time to affirm the power of Jesus for us today. Divide into two groups, each with a leader, and read alternate lines. All shout the final word loudly together.

Who is this man?

*Even the winds and waves obey him.*

Who is this man?

*He knows all our worries.*

Who is this man?

*He is with us in the storm.*

Who is this man?

*The Son of God!*

**Jesus!**

Remind everyone that Jesus is with us in the bad (stormy) times in our lives. Pray for people who we know that are having a hard time just now.

Could end the prayer time by sitting quietly and listening to *Be still and know that I am God* or similar.



**Possible Songs**

Do not be afraid (Prospects)

Who do you say I am? (Prospects)

Our God is an awesome God

Be bold be strong