SUNDAY SCHOOL TO GO

JESUS IN THE STORM

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH, SIOUX FALLS

MARCH 29, 2020
Jesus had been spending his time going from place to place, healing people and talking to people about God and the Kingdom. In one place, the crowds were so big that he had to stand in a boat off the shore so that everyone could see and hear him. He spoke so that the people could understand him and used stories and parables to be sure they could learn. He knew what the people needed and he made sure to help each person.

One evening, after a long and tiring day, Jesus invited his friends to go with him to cross the lake. They left the crowd that they had been talking with and climbed in a fishing boat. Jesus fell asleep.

Suddenly, the wind came up and a big storm came. Lightning and thunder filled the sky. The waves were splashing into the boat! The boat bounced around the sea, terrifying the men inside. The storm raged and Jesus was sound asleep. These men had been in boats many times and knew all about storms. They knew the sea could be dangerous and they did everything they could, but they had never been in a storm like this! It was too big and too scary for them to handle. The men tried to wake him up. They begged him to save them. They even wondered if Jesus still cared about them. They were certain the boat was about to sink and that they would all die in the sea.

Jesus helped them at just the right time. He is never too late. When Jesus woke up, He spoke to the waves. He said, “Quiet! Be still!”

With just His word, the storm was gone and the sea was calm. With just His word, the storm was gone and the sea was calm. The storm had not been too big or too scary for Jesus to handle. He can handle anything! There were no more waves. There was no more wind. The sea was smooth and quiet.

Jesus asked the men why they were afraid. They had been through hard things with Him before, and He always took care of them. The big waves and their fear had made it hard for them to remember that Jesus was right in the boat with them! When things are scary, it is sometimes hard to remember the ways that Jesus has cared for in the past and His promise to take care of us every time. That’s ok. Jesus loves us anyway and will always remind us, just like He reminded the men in the boat. He asked the men, “do you still have no faith?” The men in the boat were in awe and asked one another, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!” They were amazed by Jesus’ power!
SCIENCE
Make a storm in a bottle. If you have it, use blue food coloring or get creative and use kool-aid, paint or whatever you have at home. (an M&M candy soaked in the water adds color.) In a clean bottle or clear jar or drinking glass, add colored water to fill to about a third. Then add baby oil or vegetable oil to another third. The top third is to leave room to avoid spills. Add glitter or pepper for fun. Make your own waves or storm. Notice that it takes a little while for your storm to calm. The Bible says that when Jesus said, "Quiet! Be still," the wind died down and the sea was completely calm.

TALK ABOUT IT
How can we trust Jesus when we feel afraid?
What are some situations in your life that feel like a storm right now? What are some storms Jesus has helped you through before?
Being in charge of the sea is a pretty amazing thing. What other amazing things can Jesus do?
What can God do when we bring our little faith?
What are some ways to remember that Jesus is always with us, even when we are afraid?
Who is the authority at your school? Your home? Your city? What is Jesus the authority over?

PLAY
Gather your siblings or parents or use paper bags or socks to make puppets. Turn your couch or chair into your boat and pretend you are in the storm. What does it feel like when Jesus calms the storm? What do you have at home that can make storm sounds?

PRAY!
Focus on Jesus! Tell Him about your storms and talk to Him about how glad you are that He is always with us and in control, no matter how big our "storm" looks to us. Ask Him to speak.

GET CRAFTY
Draw and cut out little people and attach them to popsicle sticks or spoons. Make a boat from half a paper plate or some paper. If you have paints at home, you could also use watercolors and crayons to draw the scene of Jesus calming the sea or two pieces of art- one with the storm, one with the calm.

MAKE A BOAT
Create a boat using cleaned recyclables and other household items. Bottles, foil, jars, Styrofoam plates, even plastic reusable bowls, cups, etc. Float them in your bathtub or sink as you talk about when Jesus calmed the storm.

SNACK
Make boats from apple slices, cheese, or other foods, pretzel sticks, etc.

The Bible has many verses that remind us that we do not need to be afraid! What are some of your favorites?
How do you think the people on the boat felt?
Tic Tac Toe

Take turns drawing lines between dots, when you make a box, add your initial.

The player with the most boxes wins.

Dots

Even the wind and the waves obey Him!

Jesus is with us!

REMEmber, GOD LOVES YOU!