



Calming the Storm

Lesson Aim: To trust Jesus during the storms in our lives and to obey the authorities He has given us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God of Wonders

THE WORD

Bible Story: Mark 4:35-41

What He has done: Jesus calmed the wind and waves.

Key Verse: Mark 4:39

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Genesis 1:1-3, 9-10

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible...
 all things were created by Him and for Him.

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:16-17

Unit 1: Jesus as the God of Wonders			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	Jesus' First Miracle, John 2:3-11	Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana.	To consider miracles: why God performs them, who gets to participate, and how to recognize them.
2	Filling the Nets, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus filled the nets to call His followers.	To challenge children to respond to Jesus' miracles by following Him.
3	Calming the Storm, Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calmed the wind and waves.	To trust Jesus during the storms in our lives and to obey the authorities He has given us.
4	Healing Jairus' Daughter, Luke 8:40-42, 49-56	Jesus healed a 12-year-old girl.	To identify obstacles and to trust God's choice in His way of healing us.
5	Feeding the Five Thousand, John 6:3-13	Jesus fed five thousand people with five small loaves and two small fish.	To see how God includes us and expects us to participate in His plan by gathering and giving.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 8. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for calming our storms. May this story show the children Your power and goodness, inspiring them to obey You. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Windy Balloon Race	Inflated (non-helium) balloons, floor tape or chalk
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For by Him" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Praise You" "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "To Him Who Sits on the Throne" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" "How Great Thou Art" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: Psalm 65:5-8	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 3 Bonzai Brothers script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Mark 4:35-41	Map—Sea of Galilee in Ancient Israel, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, Reader's Theatre scripts and supplies, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Genesis 1:1-3, 9-10	
	Final 5	Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Wavy Seas	Blue frosting, sugar cookies or sweet crackers, plastic knives
	Up to 10	Game: Storm Calmers	Large notepad or chalk board, writing tool
	Up to 10	Craft: Storm in a Jar	Plastic jars or bottles with lids (8 oz. or larger), water, clear liquid dish soap, food coloring, vinegar, permanent marker, teaspoon measures
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Musical Chairs	Chairs, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "For by Him," CD player
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is the biggest storm you have ever seen?

GAME: WINDY BALLOON RACE

Purpose: Children will move balloons across the play area using only their breath as they begin to learn Jesus has authority over nature.

Supplies: Inflated (non-helium) balloons, floor tape or chalk

Prepare: Mark a start line and a finish line an equal distance apart for each team.

Directions:

1. Form two teams of equal number. Have each team stand in a line behind their team's start line. Give a balloon to each child.
2. On your signal, the first child on each team blows his or her balloon across the finish line. Children should not use hands or other body parts to guide the balloon while in between the start and finish lines.
3. Child runs back to the start line and the next child takes a turn.
4. Play until all children have blown their balloons across the finish line.
5. Goal is to be the first team to blow all of their balloons across the finish line.

How did you make your balloons move? (By blowing on them.) **What are some other things you can do with your breath?** (Blow bubbles, blow out candles, cool food, see it in freezing temperatures, make steam, etc.) **We can do a few small things with the little bit of wind we can create with our mouths. Jesus showed He can make the wind in a storm obey Him. Let's find out what Jesus did with the wind and waves on a lake one stormy day.**

Option: Limited Space? Have all children sit in place and work together to blow 10 inflated balloons from one side of the play area to the other. Or use ping pong balls and blow them across a table or floor. Time their effort, then play again and challenge children to improve their time.



Jesus as the God of Wonders

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 65:5-8.



Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "For by Him." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on the God of Wonders.

Today, we worship Jesus as the God of Wonders. Wonders are miracles. Jesus did a miracle when He calmed the wind and the waves on the Sea of Galilee. In this miracle, the wind and waves obeyed Jesus and the disciples were amazed!

In the beginning, Jesus used His power to create the seas. In this miracle, Jesus used His power to save the disciples from the stormy sea. As we give our Him our offering today, let's think about His amazing power and how we can trust Jesus to use that power to save us. Sing: "How Great Thou Art" as the offering is collected.



Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 1, Lesson 3.



Jesus calmed the storm

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned Jesus filled the nets with fish. What did Jesus say to the fishermen after the miracle? ("Follow Me.") What did the fishermen do? (They left everything and followed Him.) Can you name any of the fishermen? (Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John.)

Today, let's learn how Jesus calmed a storm on the Sea of Galilee. If a map of Israel is available, point to the Sea of Galilee.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Mark 4:35-41. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Mark 4:39.**

Let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

READERS' THEATRE: Calming the Storm. Instead of reading our Bible passage, let's act it out and imagine what it was like to be in the boat with Jesus when the storm came. Distribute Readers' Theatre Scripts available at ResourceWell.org. Assign roles and distribute costumes according to the script directions.

Teacher Tip: The Readers' Theatre replaces the reading of the above Bible passages; directly quoting those passages. If you omit the Readers' Theatre, be sure to read Mark 4:35-41 aloud to the children.



Trust and obey **THE WAY**

Teacher's Tip: Children may remain in the "boat" used for the Readers' Theatre during THE WORD.

Imagine this is the size of the disciples' boat and the waves are breaking over the sides. They may have been as close to Jesus as we are to each other. What did they say when they woke Him? ("Teacher, don't you care if we drown?") **Have you ever faced a difficult situation and felt alone—as if God didn't care what was happening to you?** (Children respond.)

Jesus wants us to come to Him with our fears and trust Him to take care of us. Jesus' followers were in a sea storm. When we are in times of trouble or danger, we are in a "life storm." Would anyone like to share a life storm you are going through right now? (Children respond.) **How can you trust Jesus to take care of you during this life storm?** (Children respond.) Lead brief prayer for each child's life storm. If possible, ask another child to pray for the need.



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

This was not the first time the wind and the waves heard God's voice and obeyed Him. When do you think the first time was? (Children respond.) **Thousands of years before Jesus calmed the Sea of Galilee, He spoke to the waters that covered the earth.**



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Genesis 1:1-3, 9-10. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.**

Read Genesis 1:1-3. **Now, let's read further to see the first time the waters obeyed God.** Read Genesis 1:9-10. **The wind and waves obeyed Jesus because He is the authority over them. What does authority mean?** (Someone with the right and power to give orders and make sure rules are obeyed.) **How did the disciples react after they saw Jesus calm the storm?** (They were terrified.) **What might you think or feel if someone in your boat stopped the wind and the waves with just words?** (Children respond.)

Jesus is the top authority in heaven and on earth. Who are the authorities in your home, your school, and your nation? (Parents, teachers, babysitters, police, presidents, etc.) **Why is it difficult, at times, to obey them?** (It can be hard to obey when we do not understand or agree with the rules.) **Jesus knows your authorities are not perfect. Jesus is the top authority, so He is the one who allows them to be in place, even though they are not perfect. How is obeying your parent and other authorities a way of trusting and obeying Jesus?** (Children respond.) **For His own reasons, He put them in charge of us. Obeying them is trusting in Jesus' good plan for us, even if we don't understand it or when it doesn't seem fair.**

Jesus knows about the storms in your life. He knows when it is a challenge for you to obey your authorities. Jesus was in control of the storm in the lives of the disciples. You can trust that He is in control of any life storm or challenge you may face.

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a pinwheel. Take it home as a reminder that the wind obeyed Jesus when He commanded it to "Be still."

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #3. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jesus standing in the boat with His disciples as He calms the sea. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "For by Him," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: WAVY SEAS

Purpose: Children will eat a snack while discussing how Jesus calmed the storm.

Snack Suggestion: Blue frosting, sugar cookies or sweet crackers, plastic knives

Can you imagine how the disciples felt while they were in the storm? (Children respond.) **What do you think the wind did to the boat?** (Children respond.) **What do you think the waves looked like?** (Children respond.) **Let's eat a snack that reminds us of sea waves while we talk about the storms you have seen.**

Directions:

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Children spread frosting on cookies to look like sea waves.
4. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What is the most frightening thing about storms?"**

GAME: STORM CALMERS

Purpose: For children to consider things they can do to help them trust Jesus during their life storms.

Supplies: Large notepad or chalk board, writing tool, boat used in Reader's Theatre or create a boat using chairs or other available materials

When we are in a life storm, Jesus wants us to know that He is God. Just as the followers did, Jesus wants us to come to Him, tell Him our fears and trust Him.

Directions:

1. Have children sit in the boat used in the Reader's Theatre or create a boat using chairs or other available materials.
2. **What are some things we can say, do, or think that will help us trust Jesus to take care of us during our life storm?** (Children respond.)
3. Write their ideas on the paper or board. (Some examples: Repeat His words, "Quiet, Be Still!" out loud to calm your heart, listen to or sing a song about His power or protection, put a bookmark in Mark 4:39 and read it each night, etc.)
4. Have children practice some of their ideas while sitting in the boat.
5. Optional: Have the children pretend the boat is in the middle of a storm (Children rock back and forth or make wind, rain, and thunder noises.). Lead the children in using one of their ideas (For example: shout "Quiet, Be Still!" or sing a song.). The storm ceases as they remember Jesus cares for them. Play again using another idea.

Remember, when you are in a life storm, trust Jesus to help you. He has the power!

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: STORM IN A JAR

Purpose: Children will make an artificial storm to help them remember they can trust Jesus to calm storms in both nature and life.

Supplies: Plastic jars or bottles with lids (8 oz. or larger), water, clear liquid dish soap, food coloring, vinegar, permanent marker, teaspoon measures

Prepare: Clean the jars thoroughly. Make a sample craft to demonstrate how to create the storm. Where children can see to copy, write: **Jesus Calms the Storm. Mark 4:35-41**

Optional: Add glitter or a few small beads to the water mixture. Hot glue the lid closed or wrap with strong tape. If you do not have enough jars for all of the children, divide into groups according to the number of jars and let each group make a storm.

Teacher Tip: Standard 16 oz water bottles are not recommended because they are too narrow. Older children can use glass jars if you feel they can handle them safely. The session before you do this project, send a note home asking parents to donate clean jars.

Today, we learned about one of Jesus' miracles. Where were the disciples? (In a boat in the middle of the sea.) **Where was Jesus?** (Sleeping in the boat.) **What did the disciples think about Jesus being asleep during the storm?** (He didn't care if they drowned.) **Jesus did care. In fact, He cared so much He commanded the storm to stop. Sometimes Jesus stops the frightening events, like storms, going on around us, and sometimes He helps us get through them. But we can always trust Jesus to care for us. Let's make a storm in a jar to help us remember we can trust Jesus to calm the storms in our lives and help us through them.**

Directions:

1. Fill the jar $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water.
2. Add one or two drops of food coloring.
3. Pour in 1 teaspoon of dish soap. (If using a concentrated formula, only add one drop/)
4. Add 1 teaspoon of vinegar.
5. Close the lid tightly and shake gently to mix.
6. Grip the jar tightly. Forcefully twist the jar in one direction (left or right). The water will swirl.
7. Watch the storm of water that twists like a tornado or dust swirl.
8. As the storm calms, think about how Jesus calms the storms in your life.
9. On the outside of the jar, write **Jesus Calms the Storm. Mark 4:35-41** in permanent marker.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible...
all things were created by Him and for Him.

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:16-17

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: Children memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Jesus was with God in the very beginning. Together, they created everything in heaven and on the earth. As we say our Bible Memory Verse together, think about something amazing you have seen. Remember, God created everything and He created you, too!

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from Colossians 1:16-17 to each child or group.
2. As helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky, then down to thighs and sits down.
3. Repeat three times going faster each time.

GAME: MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: Children memorize and discuss the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Chairs, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "For by Him," CD player, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Prepare: Set chairs (one for every child) back-to-back in a row.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chairs are removed. All children remain in the game. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and be seated.

Did you know Jesus created you? That's what the Bible says. Jesus was with God in the beginning and all things were created by Him and for Him. That's what our Bible Memory Verse is all about. Let's say it together to learn more about Jesus. Read Colossians 1:16-17 from the Bible or recite from the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Play or sing the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For by Him."
2. Children sing the song and walk around the chairs in a line.
3. Stop the music. Children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.
4. Play again. Each time you play, stop the song in a different spot and ask the children to finish singing the next few words or phrase.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part One studies the miracles of Jesus, which took place during His public ministry (Circa 30-33 A.D.). This list is not chronological, as the Bible does not give a definitive order of the miracles. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Changing Water into Wine (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Jesus performed the first miracle of His public ministry at a wedding in Cana. **What was it?** (Jesus changed the water into wine.) **Who asked for Jesus' help?** (His mother, Mary.) **Who assisted Jesus in this miracle?** (The servants.)

Filling the Nets (Circa 30-33 A.D.) The fishermen fished all night but caught no fish. **What happened when Peter obeyed Jesus by putting the nets out one more time?** (They filled with fish.) **What did the fishermen do when Jesus told them to follow Him?** (They left everything and followed Jesus.)

Calming the Storm (Circa 30-33 A.D.) **Who did the followers go to when they were afraid?** (Jesus.) **What did the wind and waves do when Jesus gave them an order?** (They obeyed.) **Jesus wants us to obey Him just as quickly as the waves did.**

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Miracles of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

The Miracles of Jesus: (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Changing Water into Wine > Filling the Nets > Calming the Storm > Healing Jairus' Daughter > Feeding the Five Thousand > Healing the Centurion's Servant > Healing the Paralyzed Man > Healing the Sick Woman > Healing the Deaf and Mute Man > Healing the Ten Men > Banishing an Evil Spirit > Saving the Official's Son > Walking on Water > Giving Sight to the Man Born Blind > Raising Lazarus > Riding into Jerusalem > The Miracle of Easter > Appearing to the Disciples > Appearing to Thomas > Appearing on the Shore > Ascending into Heaven