

GOD OF WONDERS: THE READERS' THEATRE CALMING THE STORM Mark 4:38-41 (NIRV)

This Readers' Theatre Script is a compilation of various scripture quotes from Mark 4:38-41. The quotes are taken directly from the New International Readers' Version.

Teacher assigns roles and puts everyone in places for scene. Non-readers and younger students often prefer to dress up and act out each sentence as teacher and assistant read all parts. Older, more proficient readers may want to read parts.

Teacher Tips: For children who do not wish to be lightly sprayed, assign them the roles of narrator, Jesus, or wind blowers. To maintain classroom control, use spray sparingly, on "mist" setting. Repeat scene, reassigning wind blower roles so all who want a turn in the boat can have one.

1. **NARRATOR:** Assistant or experienced reader
2. **WIND BLOWERS:** 2-4 children hold folding fans, stand outside the "boat."
3. **WAVES:** Teacher holds spray bottle.
4. **DISCIPLES:** Remaining children sit on floor in "boat."
5. **JESUS:** Child sleeps in stern (back) of "boat."

Scene:

The scene takes place on the Sea of Galilee as follows:

- Boat: Blanket or floor tape used to make a boat outline
- Wind: Four folding fans made by accordion-style folding 8x11 inch paper
- Waves' Spray: One spray bottle of water

(NARRATOR) "A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped."

(WIND BLOWERS) (Circle the boat; fan the disciples to create lots of wind.)

(WAVES) (Teacher mists disciples with water. Avoid those who do not wish to be sprayed.)

(DISCIPLES) (Seated with arms linked, sway together side-to-side as if tossed by the storm.)

(NARRATOR) "Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke Him and said to Him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?'"

(DISCIPLES) (To Jesus) "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

(NARRATOR) "He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!'"

(JESUS) (Stands and speaks to Waves and Wind Blowers): "Quiet! Be still!"

(NARRATOR) "Then the wind died down and it was completely calm."

(WIND BLOWERS, WAVES, DISCIPLES)
(Stop suddenly.)

(NARRATOR) "He said to His disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'"

(JESUS) "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

(NARRATOR) They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"

(DISCIPLES) "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"

The End

*Teacher Tip: If desired, children may remain in the "boat" for THE WAY discussion time located in the Teacher's Guide.