



# Walking on the Water

**Lesson Aim:** To know we do not need to fear because Jesus is with us and He will save us.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** Jesus as Savior

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Matthew 14:22-34

**What He Has Done:** Jesus walked on water and saved Peter from drowning.

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Joel 2:32

| Unit 4: Jesus as Savior |   |  |   |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|
|                         | Bible Story   | What He Has Done                                     | Lesson Aim  |
| 17                      | Saving the Official's Son,<br>John 4:46-54              | Jesus saved the boy from a terrible fever.           | To know we can trust God to always keep His promises.                             |
| 18                      | Walking on Water,<br>Matthew 14:22-34                   | Jesus walked on water and saved Peter from drowning. | To know we do not need to fear because Jesus is with us and He will save us.      |
| 19                      | Giving Sight to the Man Born Blind,<br>John 9:1-3, 5-11 | Jesus healed the man's blindness.                    | To see God purposefully made everyone with different needs to show His greatness. |
| 20                      | Appearing to Thomas,<br>John 20:24-31                   | Jesus showed Thomas proof He was the Lord.           | To see Jesus did miracles so we might believe in Him.                             |
| 21                      | Appearing to the Disciples,<br>Luke 24:36-48            | Jesus explained why He died and rose again.          | To see Jesus did miracles so we might believe in Him and tell others.             |

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 69:1-36. Please join us in praying, "Lord, replace our fear with confidence in our Savior. Help the children focus on You, instead of their fears. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Praise Time!** Young children learn by doing. Lead the class around the room, clapping or playing musical instruments in rhythm with the music. Demonstrate what you want them to do and give them time to practice. Children love repetition, so play short songs more than once or repeat a favorite activity at the beginning and end of your time together.



| Segment     | Minutes  | Activity   | Supplies   |
|-------------|----------|--|--|
| THE WELCOME |          | <b>Welcome</b>   | Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a life preserver   |
|             |          | <b>Coloring Center:</b> Walking on the Water   | Coloring pages of Jesus walking on water, crayons  |
|             |          | <b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Storm in the Sky   | Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools   |
|             |          | <b>Activity Center:</b> Float Your Boat  | Container partially filled with water, toy boat, water toys, plastic table cloth or plastic sheet, towel   |
|             |          | <b>Activity Center:</b> Swim Ring Toss   | Inflated swim ring, 3 bean bags  |
|             |          | <b>Preparing for Worship</b>   | None   |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | <b>Worship</b><br>Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. | Praise music, optional: musical instruments<br><b>Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b><br>"Everyone Who Calls"<br><b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b><br>"Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled"<br>"He Is Mighty to Save"<br>"Heal Me, O Lord"<br>"I Will Remember"<br>"Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"<br>"The Lord Is Faithful"<br>"With God All Things Are Possible"<br><b>Additional Song Suggestion:</b><br>"I'm Gonna Clap My Hands" |
|             |          | <b>Offering</b>  | Baskets  |
|             |          | <b>Worship Illustration</b>  | <i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 4, Lesson 18  |
| THE WORD    | Up to 10 | <b>Watch the Word:</b><br>Matthew 14:22-34   | Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 14:30<br>Visual: Picture of the Bible story, toy boat or a picture of a boat  |
| THE WAY     | Up to 25 | <b>Craft:</b> Walking on the Water   | Standard-size sturdy blue paper, sturdy brown and tan paper, 2 craft sticks, crayons or markers, glue or glue sticks, optional supplies: eye stickers, yarn for hair, fish stickers, sea stickers  |
|             |          | <b>Game:</b> Act It Out  | Large sheet  |
|             |          | <b>Game:</b> Stormy Sea  | None   |
|             |          | <b>Snack:</b> Treats from the Sea  | Fish-shaped crackers and water   |
|             | Final 5  | <b>Final Five</b>  | Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 4, Lesson 18   |
| GOT TIME?   | Up to 10 | <b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Matthew 14:22-34  | None   |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Game:</b> Everyone Who Calls  | None   |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Game:</b> Call on the Lord  | Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Everyone Who Calls," optional: musical instruments   |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Story Time</b>  | Any story about God rescuing us  |

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as Lord

# THE WELCOME

## WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a life preserver. **This is a stamp (or sticker) of a life preserver. We use life preservers to save or rescue someone who is in the water. Let it remind you that Jesus walked on the water to save His friends.**

**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

## COLORING CENTER: WALKING ON THE WATER

### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Jesus walking on water, crayons

### **DO**

Children color while talking about the story.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**One day, Jesus friends were caught in a storm when they were in their boat. Jesus walked on the water to get to them. Jesus told them to not be afraid. Are you ever afraid? (Children respond.) When you're afraid, remember Jesus is always with you. We do not need to fear, because Jesus is with us and He will save us.**

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: STORM IN THE SKY

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

### **DO**

Children make clouds, a stormy sea, or a boat with the play-dough.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**In today's story, Jesus' friends were in danger. They were in a boat that was being tossed by big waves in the middle of the sea. How do you think Jesus' friends felt? (Children respond.) To get to their boat, Jesus walked on the top of the water. It was a miracle! As soon as Jesus climbed in the boat, the storm stopped and they were safe. How do you think Jesus' friends felt then? (Children respond.) Can you make clouds, or a stormy sea, or a boat with your play-dough?**

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **ACTIVITY CENTER: FLOAT YOUR BOAT**

### **SUPPLIES**

Container partially filled with water, toy boat, water toys, plastic table cloth or plastic sheet, towel

### **DO**

Cover a table with the plastic table cloth. Place the container on the table and fill it with a few inches of water. Children take turns playing with the water and toys.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Where do we use boats?** (On water.) **How do boats move?** (Oars, sails, wind, motors, etc.) **Can you blow the boat across the water?** Let children take turns blowing the boat across the water. **What do you like to do in the water?** (Children respond.)

## **ACTIVITY CENTER: SWIM RING TOSS**

### **SUPPLIES**

Inflated swim ring, 3 bean bags

### **DO**

Children take turns tossing the bean bags in the swim ring.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Can you walk on water?** (No.) **We need something to help us float on the water or we may sink.** Show the children the inflated swim ring. **Swim rings can help us float. What else can help us float?** (Children respond.) **Let's play a game and see if we can toss the bean bags in the swim ring.**

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>"Everyone</b>             | (each) Hold up left fist with thumb pointing up. Move the thumb of right fist down the backside of the left fist. (one) Then, hold up index finger of right hand. |
| <b>who calls on the name</b> | (call (give name)) Make "H" handshape on both hands by holding pointer finger and middle finger together. Tap one "H" handshape on top of the other.              |
| <b>of the Lord</b>           | (Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.  |
| <b>will be saved."</b>       | (saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest and then pull apart, ending with both fists facing outward.   |
| <b>Joel 2:32</b>             | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.   |



Jesus as Savior

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**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 "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**I'm so glad you came today. I love praising Jesus and listening to Bible stories with you. Let's thank God for giving us this time together.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for bringing us here together. We praise Your name. Amen.**



**It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus as our Savior. A savior is someone who saves or rescues us from danger. The Bible promises that if we call out to Jesus, He will save us.** Sing: "Everyone Who Calls."



**Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together. Remember that Lord is one of God's special names.** Practice a few times with the sign language.

**"Everyone**

(each) Hold up left fist with thumb pointing up. Move the thumb of right fist down the backside of the left fist. (one) Then, hold up index finger of right hand.

**who calls on the name**

(call (give name)) Make "H" handshape on both hands by holding pointer finger and middle finger together. Tap one "H" handshape on top of the other.

**of the Lord**

(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

**will be saved."**

(saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest and then pull apart, ending with both fists facing outward.

**Joel 2:32**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**The Lord loves you and He loves me. He loves us all and He will always keep His promises! Let's sing about that as we give our offering.** Sing: "The Lord Is Faithful" while collecting the offering.



**In today's story, Jesus' friends were in danger. They were in a boat in the middle of a big storm. To get to their boat, Jesus walked on the top of the water. It was a miracle! Let's see if Delbert and Lello know that Bible story.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 4, Lesson 18.



**We don't ever have to be afraid because we know Jesus is with us and He is mighty to save.** Sing: "He Is Mighty to Save."



Jesus walked on the water

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 14:30, picture of the Bible story, toy boat or a picture of a boat

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b> | Point to eyes.                               |
| <b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>   | Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign. |
| <b>I will listen to hear,</b>      | Cup hand around ear.                         |
| <b>How God loves you and me.</b>   | Hug self, point to others, and then self.    |

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

**Who has been in a boat?** (Children respond.) **What would you do if began to storm when you were in a boat? Would you be scared?** (Children respond.) **In our story today, Jesus' friends were caught in a storm while they were on the Sea of Galilee. Let's find out what happened.** Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 14:30.



### **WATCH THE WORD: MATTHEW 14:22-34**

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- Jesus sent His followers late one day,
- To cross the lake, so they rowed away.
- Jesus walked up the mountainside alone to pray.
- But a wind came tossing their boat in the waves!
- They saw Jesus walking on the water.
- He walked through the wind and over the waves.
- They cried, "It's a ghost!" He said, "Don't be afraid.
- Take courage. It is I." Jesus came to save.
- Then Peter said, "Lord, if it's really You,
- Let me walk on the water, let me come to You."
- Jesus said, "Come," and Peter stepped out.
- Peter walked on the water until he looked down.
- He saw the wind and he was afraid.
- He started to sink and cried, "Lord, save!"
- Jesus' hand reached out catching Peter right away!
- He asked, "Why did you doubt, you of little faith?"
- When they climbed into the boat, the wind calmed down.
- Everyone in the boat worshiped and bowed down.
- This miracle proved what some already thought.
- They said, "Truly, You are the Son of God."

**How did Jesus get to the boat?** (He walked on the water.) **Can you walk on the water?** (No.) **Was it a miracle that Jesus walked on the water?** (Yes.)



Everyone who calls on Jesus will be saved

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: WALKING ON THE WATER**

**Purpose:** To use puppets to recreate the scene where Jesus walked on water and saved Peter from drowning.

**Supplies:** Standard-size sturdy blue paper, sturdy brown and tan paper, 2 craft sticks, crayons or markers, glue or glue sticks, optional supplies: eye stickers, yarn for hair, fish stickers, sea stickers

**Prepare:** From sturdy tan paper, cut two 2-inch circles. From sturdy brown paper, cut a 4-inch half circle. Cut a 4-inch horizontal slit in the center of the blue paper. At the top of the blue paper, print:

**Jesus said, "Don't be afraid."**

At the bottom of the blue paper, print: **Matthew 14:22-34**

#### **Directions:**

1. Draw Jesus' face on one of the 2-inch paper circles.
2. Draw Peter's face on the other circle.
3. Glue a face on each craft stick.
4. Glue the brown half circle to the blue paper below the slit for the boat on the water.
5. Draw waves on the water.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Imagine the blue paper is a stormy sea with strong wind and big waves. Let's use our Jesus and Peter stick puppets to act out the miracle at sea.**
- **Peter stands on the boat.** Children slip the Peter puppet into the slit so he's in the boat.
- **Jesus walks on the water.** Children slip the Jesus puppet into the slit.
- **Peter jumps in the water.** Children slide the Peter puppet out of the boat and into the water.
- **Peter sinks out of sight.** Children lower the Peter puppet until only his head is showing.
- **Peter says, "Lord, save me!" Jesus says, "Don't be afraid," and helps Peter walk on water to get back to the boat.** Children move both puppets to the boat.
- If time allows, have children take turns telling and acting out the story with their puppets.

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: ACT IT OUT**

**Purpose:** To remember the story of Jesus walking on the water by acting it out.

**Supplies:** Large sheet

### **Directions:**

1. Place sheet in the center of the room. Have everyone sit in the "boat."
2. Teacher reads the poem below, pausing after each phrase for the children to act it out.
  - **Jesus sent His followers late one day,** (Point towards door.)
  - **To cross the lake, so they rowed away.** (Rowing motion.)
  - **Jesus walked up the mountainside alone to pray.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
  - **But a wind came tossing their boat in the waves!**  
(Wave arms in air. Say, "Whooshhhhh!, Splashhhh!")
  - **They saw Jesus walking on the water.** ("Walk" with your fingers.)
  - **He walked through the wind and over the waves.**  
(Wave arms in air. Say, "Whooshhhhh!, Splashhhh!")
  - **"Don't be afraid," He said, "It's Me."** (Hands on cheeks in fear.)
  - **You'll be alright. I promise. You'll see.** (Point to a child.)
  - **When they climbed into the boat, the wind calmed down.** (O.K. hand signal.)
  - **Everyone in the boat worshiped and bowed down.** (Bow head, fold hands in prayer.)
  - **Only Jesus could have walked on water and kept them safe.** (#1 hand signal.)
  - **Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.** (Motion to everyone.)

## **GAME: STORMY SEA**

**Purpose:** To remember the story of Jesus keeping the friends safe.

**Supplies:** None

**When Jesus' friends were in their boat and they were being tossed about by the storm, they were afraid. What did Jesus say when He walked out to them? ("Don't be afraid. It is Me.") In this game, we're going to pretend to be tossed about by the stormy sea until we hear Jesus' words and remember we never have to be afraid because He is always with us.**

### **Directions:**

1. Gather everyone in the play area.
2. Tell the children when you call out, "Stormy sea!" they are to move about and make the sounds of the wind and the waves: "Whooshhhhh!, Splashhhh!"
3. Tell the children when you call out, "Don't be afraid. It is Me," they are to stop what they are doing and be still like the wind and waves were still.
4. Play several times.
5. Optional: Allow one or more of the children a chance to call out "Stormy Sea" and "Don't be afraid. It is Me."



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: TREATS FROM THE SEA**

**Purpose:** Children enjoy a snack with a sea theme and discuss the story of Jesus walking on water.

**Snack Suggestion:** Fish-shaped crackers and water

### **Directions:**

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,  
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **How do you think Jesus' followers felt to see someone in the storm, walking on the water, and coming toward their boat?** (Afraid.)
  - **When Peter looked at the wind and the waves, what was he afraid of?** (Sinking in the water.) **What are you afraid of?** (Children respond.) **What can you remember to help you not be afraid?** (Jesus is always with you.)
  - **What is your favorite part of this story?** (Children respond.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>"Everyone</b>             | (each) Hold up left fist with thumb pointing up. Move the thumb of right fist down the backside of the left fist. (one) Then, hold up index finger of right hand. |
| <b>who calls on the name</b> | (call (give name)) Make "H" handshape on both hands by holding pointer finger and middle finger together. Tap one "H" handshape on top of the other.              |
| <b>of the Lord</b>           | (Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.  |
| <b>will be saved."</b>       | (saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest and then pull apart, ending with both fists facing outward.   |
| <b>Joel 2:32</b>             | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.   |

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: MATTHEW 14:22-34**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Jesus' followers left in their boat to cross the lake.** (Rowing motion.)
- **But a wind came tossing their boat in the waves!** (Wave arms in air.)
- **They saw Jesus walking on the water.** (Walk in place.)
- **"Don't be afraid. It is I," He said. Jesus came to save.** (Point up.)
  
- **Then Peter said, "Let me come to You."** (Raise hand, as if asking question.)
- **Jesus said, "Come," and Peter stepped out in the waves.** (Beckoning motion.)
- **He saw the wind and he was afraid.** (Wave arms for a rescue.)
- **Jesus' hand reached out catching Peter right away!** (Hands reach out.)
  
- **When they climbed into the boat, the wind calmed down.** ("O.K." hand signal.)
- **Everyone in the boat worshiped Jesus and bowed down.** (Bow head, fold hand in prayer.)
- **This miracle proved what some already thought.** (Point to head.)
- **They said, "Truly, You are the Son of God."** (Point up to heaven.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Joel 2:32

### **GAME: EVERYONE WHO CALLS**

**Purpose:** To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Choose one child to stand in the center of the circle.
3. Remaining children chant the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse in rhythm:  
Group: **Everyone who calls – on the name of the Lord – will – be – saved!**  
Center child: **"Even me?"**  
Group: **"Yes, you!"**  
Center child: **"What about name of child?"** (Child in the center chooses a child in the circle.)  
Group: **"Name of child chosen, too!"**
4. Child whose name was called stands in the center of the room.
5. Repeat step 3 until each child has a turn in the center.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: CALL ON THE LORD**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Everyone Who Calls," optional: musical instruments

**Our Bible Memory Verse tells us to call on the name of the Lord. Remember that "Lord" is a special name for God. We can call on Him no matter where we are or what we are doing. When our Bible Memory Verse Song is playing, let's march around the room while we sing along. When the music stops, I want you to freeze in place and together we will say our Bible Memory Verse.**

### **Directions:**

1. Play "Everyone Who Calls" as a helper leads the children in marching around the room.
2. After a short time, pause the music. The children freeze in place.
3. Lead the children in saying the Bible Memory Verse: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved," Joel 2:32.
4. Play as long as you like. Give the children each a turn in leading the group around the room.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about God rescuing us.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 4, Lesson 18: Walking on the Water

**PONDER!** Jesus' friends were afraid when they were in their boat during a storm (Matthew 14:22-34). Who saved them from the storm? (Jesus.) Jesus cared for His friends. We do not need to fear, because Jesus cares for us, too!

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord Jesus, please give me courage when I am afraid. Thank You for the way You rescue me and keep me safe. Amen."

**PLAY!** Act out today's story with friends or family. When you are afraid, remember Jesus watches over you, just like He watched over His friends. He will help you when you are afraid.

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"Everyone**

(each) Hold up left fist with thumb pointing up. Move the thumb of right fist down the backside of the left fist. (one) Then, hold up index finger of right hand.

**who calls on the name**

(call (give name)) Make "H" handshape on both hands by holding pointer finger and middle finger together. Tap one "H" handshape on top of the other. (Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

**of the Lord**

**will be saved."**

(saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest and then pull apart, ending with both fists facing outward.

**Joel 2:32**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.