



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 4, Lesson 18

Walking on Water

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to break fear habits by focusing on their Savior instead of their fear.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is the most amazing rescue you have ever seen?

GAME: Rescue Relay

THE WORSHIP JESUS AS SAVIOR

Read Worship Scripture: 2 Samuel 22:7.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook.

THE WORD JESUS WALKED ON WATER AND SAVED PETER

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Jesus healed the official's son with His words alone.

Today, we will discover Jesus walked on water and saved Peter from drowning in the lake called the Sea of Galilee. Point to the Sea of Galilee. **This miracle occurred during the fourth watch of the night; the darkest hours of the night, from about 3am to 6am.**

Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Matthew 14:22-34. Find It First.

Highlight Key Verse: Matthew 14:30. Pray. Read.

THE WAY BREAKING HABITS OF FEAR

How did Jesus get to the boat? (He walked on the water.) **After realizing it was Jesus who was walking on water, what did Peter ask Jesus to do?** (To tell Peter to walk to Him on the water.)

[Worrying about the unknown.] **When the disciples saw a figure coming toward them on the water, they were terrified. Who did they think it was?** (A ghost.) **How do you think it might have felt to see something you did not understand and hear everyone crying out in fear? Have you ever been afraid when you saw or heard something you had never seen or heard before? Being afraid of the unknown is a habit of fear. To break that habit, we can focus on what we do know—our all-powerful God is always in control.**

[Forgetting what we know.] **Did the disciples call out for Jesus?** (No.) **Can you think of a frightening time when you and others forgot to call out or pray to God?** Forgetting what we know about God's love and power is another habit of fear. The disciples had seen Jesus calm the sea, heal the sick, and raise the dead. Earlier that day, they saw Him feed 5000 people with one boy's lunch! How might praying or reminding each other of those miracles have calmed their fears? Praying for His help and remembering His miracles are two ways we can break our habit of fear.

[Focusing on danger.] **At first, was Peter able to walk on water?** (Yes.) **Why did Peter begin to sink?** (He saw the wind and was afraid.) **Taking our focus off of Jesus and focusing on the danger or problem is another habit of fear. What did Peter do when he began to sink?** (He cried out, "Lord, save me!") **What did Jesus do?** (He reached out and saved him right away.) **Like Peter, to be saved we must cry out to Jesus, and we must focus on Jesus instead of our fears.**

If time allows, play the FEARLESS FOCUS game in the GOT TIME? segment.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

The Lord does not always rescue us right away, as He did with Peter. Hundreds of years before Peter called out "Lord, save me," those same words were written by someone who was still waiting to be rescued. Reveal Psalm 69:1-3. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

Have you ever prayed for help, but the help did not come? The writer of Psalm 69 describes being "worn out" from calling and looking for God's answer. When you feel too discouraged or worn out to pray, let this verse remind you to pray trusting in God's love for you and His perfect timing to bring help at just the right time.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: "NO FEAR!" sticker
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Jesus walking on water
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Rescue Ring Donuts

GAME: Fearless Focus

CRAFT: "No Fear" Key Chain

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: The Wave, Walking on the Word

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW