



**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Jesus walks on Water**

## **Introduction**

In the story, written out below it is only when Peter trusts in Jesus that he can walk on water. As soon as doubt creeps in, he struggles to keep afloat. Jesus is the one who's able to help him overcome his fear and get back into the boat. We might feel as though it's difficult to keep afloat at the current time with everything around us being different to normal. However, if we do trust in Jesus to be able to bring transformation into our lives, we can overcome this difficulty and get our lives back on track (even if that's a different track).

### **The bible passage is Matthew 14:22-33**

*<sup>22</sup> ... Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. <sup>23</sup> After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone.*

*<sup>24</sup> Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. <sup>25</sup> About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!"*

*<sup>27</sup> But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!"*

*<sup>28</sup> Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water."*

*<sup>29</sup> "Yes, come," Jesus said.*

*So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus.*

*<sup>30</sup> But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted.*

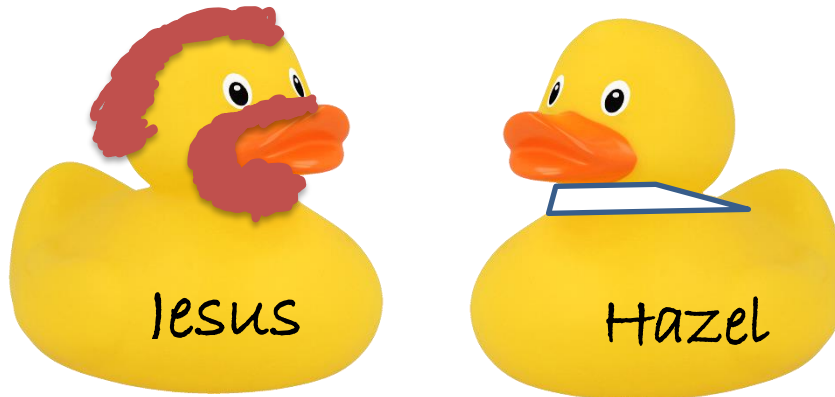
*<sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"*

*<sup>32</sup> When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. <sup>33</sup> Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.*

## Activities:

### 1 Jesus and Peter walk on water (aka Rubber Duck Jesus)

Create your own scene of Jesus and Peter walking on water using plastic ducks to represent them both. Using marker pens and waterproof decorations (googly eyes, sequins, etc.) make each duck look like Jesus and Peter (or the second duck could be yourself). Maybe write names on each duck.



Take the two ducks into the bath with you to remember the story and think about the amazing things you could do when you trust in Jesus.

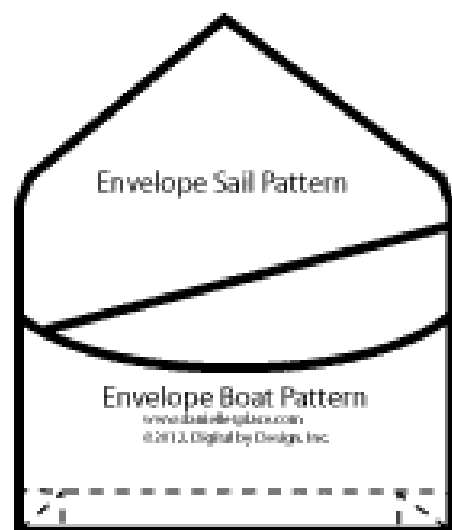
**Talk about:** How would you feel if Jesus was walking towards you on a stormy sea? Would you be bold enough to step out of the boat in faith and trust him? What might trusting in Jesus look like in our lives today?

### 2 Make the story with an envelope

You will need an envelope (4 3/8" x 5 3/4") or a Letter-sized Envelope, Pipe Cleaners or Drinking Straws, Scissors, Coloured Pencil or Crayons and Clear Tape

Made from one envelope this little boat takes only minutes to cut and assemble:

- Cut a sail and the boat from the envelope using the pattern shown.
- Fold up the bottom of the boat shape 1/2" where indicated on the pattern. Turn the envelope over and fold it up again on the same line. Do the same thing for the other fold lines, folding them up and back.
- Colour the boat shape before assembling the boat. Maybe write a Bible verse or short saying, (such as *Don't be afraid*) on the sail.





Open the boat shape pulling out the sides so that two triangle shapes appear at the corners.



Fold back the corners towards to bottom of the boat.



Tape the corners down to the bottom of the boat.

Tape the sail onto a pipe cleaner or straw and then tape it to the inside of the boat.

You can make a lake scene by cutting wave shapes from paper, make a net from vegetable bags, cut fish shapes from paper. Make Bible people out of craft sticks, card (using the figures below), or clothes pegs and place them in the boat.



**Talk about:** Use the figures and boat to re-tell the story. Which bit do you like best? What's the most important bit?

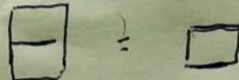
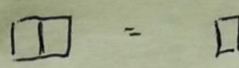
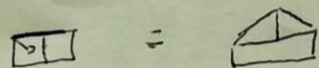

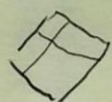

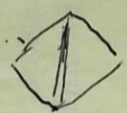
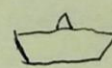
### 3 Origami boats

Here are some instructions for making a folded boat. Look at our video on Facebook to see how easy it is, or here's a link to a YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3QZpBL8-Tg>.

## PAPER BOAT

Use A4 or A5.

1. fold in half 
2. fold in half 
3. Open up and fold corners to centre from folded edge 
4. Fold bottom edges up each side 
5. Pull from centre to make 
6. Fold top down each side 
7. Pull from centre = 
8. Pull from top to open up 
9. Open bottom to make boat shape.

Float your boat on water and see what happens when the water is splashed around as if in a storm.

**Talk about:** Storms can be frightening. How can you feel safe in a storm?

### 4 Rainmakers

Make a rainmaker: Start with a paper towel tube. Close off one end with duct tape. Fill with approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of uncooked rice and close off the other end of the tube. Press assorted 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch nails into the sides of the tube. Collage the outside with nature-themed pictures from old magazines or cover with a decorated sheet of paper.



**Talk about:** What a difference the weather can make. Imagine what lockdown would have been like in cold and stormy weather.

## 5 Sensory walk

Sensory walks are fun and allow children to explore their sense of touch using their feet!

You will need: 6-8 plastic trays or bowls and a combination of rocks, bubble wrap, water beads (these need to be prepped about 6 hours in advance), flour, warm water, sticks (collect them from the garden), shaving cream, ice- cold water. A towel at the end to dry feet off with.



There might be some substances that you are afraid to put your feet into. How afraid am I of putting my bare feet into each bowl?

**Talk about:** Does this image speak more of faith or doubt? What are you afraid of?

## 6 Musical storm and calm

Prepare a large piece of paper where you can go wild with paint, imagining what it would be like to paint a storm while listening to some loud music. Calmly colour a detailed pattern while listening to some quiet music.

**Talk about:** Different styles of music can change your mood and make you behave in a different way. What kind of music do you feel like listening to at the moment?

### **Prayer**

Reflect on when, exactly, do the disciples become afraid? When does Peter start to sink? Can you recall an occasion when you were asked to do something on your own for the first time? Alternatively, think of an occasion when you decided *for yourself* to take a risk. Think about what induces panic and how it can be confronted.

Reflect on some of the things that might hold you back from knowing and trusting Jesus. Pray about these doubts and worries and ask God to help you overcome them.

Pray that we might all be able to remain calm, even in times of difficulty such as now when some may be returning to school. Say thanks for teachers and parents.