

Jesus Walks on the Water

Matthew 14:22–33

Storytelling

Talk It Over

Team leaders should open their group's Bible to Matthew 14:22–33. Be sure a bookmark is in place for the next group! Talk over the lesson using the Lesson 4 *High Tide Elementary Leaflets* and the Bible.

When did Peter start to sink? (When he started looking at the wind and became afraid.)

What did Jesus do when Peter started to sink? (Immediately, Jesus reached out His hand and took hold of Peter.)

What did the disciples do when Jesus enter the boat? (The disciples worshiped Him and said, "Truly You are the Son of God.")

When Jesus calmed the storm, the disciples said, "Who is this that even the wind and the waves obey Him?" Now they are worshiping Him as the Son of God. What is the difference? (They have listened to Him teach. They have seen miracles like the feeding of the five thousand people. They believe and recognize that their teacher, Jesus, is truly the Son of God. When we hear God's Word and learn of Jesus, God grows our faith as He grew the faith of the disciples.)

Jesus gives amazing grace! How is "Jesus Saves Me" a gift of amazing grace from Jesus? (Without Jesus, our Savior, we would drown in our sin. Because we sin, we don't deserve salvation. We can't save ourselves in this life or for eternity by our own efforts. By grace, Jesus came and took our place. He paid for our sin with His death on the cross. He won the victory over sin, death, and the devil—a fight we can't win. By grace, through faith, Jesus saves us. That's amazing grace!)

Jesus' Hand Is Strong to Save

This activity is done by the Teams. The Team stands in a circle. The Team Leader says,

Jesus' hand is strong to save! Where do we see Jesus' hand? Let's act it out!

All: Jesus' hand is strong to save! Jesus immediately reached out His hand to rescue Peter.

(Reach across the circle and take hold of someone's hand.)

All: Jesus' hand is strong to save. Jesus healed the sick with a touch.

(Gently touch someone's shoulder.)

Take-Home Point

Jesus Saves Me.

Bible Memory Verse

Jesus said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." Matthew 14:27

All: Jesus' hand is strong to save. Jesus reached out His hands on the cross to save us from sin, death, and the devil.

(Stretch out both hands without touching anyone else.)

All: Jesus' hand is strong to save. Jesus hands us His Word and gives us faith to believe.

(Place hands together in front of you like a Bible.)

All: Jesus' hand is strong to save. Jesus uses our hands too.

(Act out a way that you use your hands to help others in ways that save them from hurt, save time, or save effort.)

SAY, When we believe our troubles are bigger than God's love or power to help, we sin. Through faith, Jesus reaches out His loving hand to save us. He says, "I died to pay for your sins and then rose again. I give you the gift of forgiveness."

Prayer: Dear Jesus, You keep us safe! You protect us from sin and every evil. You died and rose again to pay for our sin and give us eternal life. As the apostle Paul said, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Thank You for Your gift of amazing grace. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Gangway to Galilee Blessing

Say this blessing to each child as you hand out the *SOS Collectible*: **"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."**