



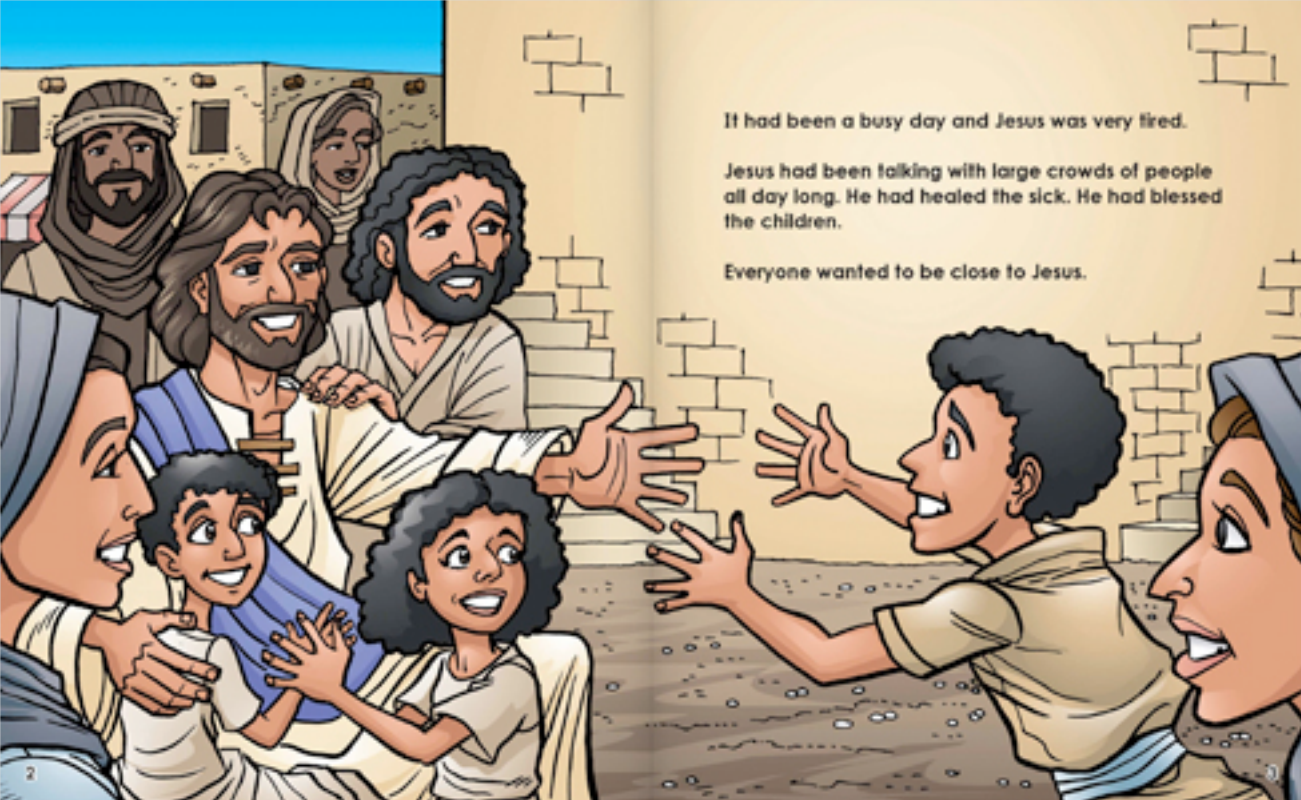
Peace Be Still



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It had been a busy day and Jesus was very tired.

Jesus had been talking with large crowds of people all day long. He had healed the sick. He had blessed the children.

Everyone wanted to be close to Jesus.

Jesus' disciples saw he was very tired. They took him to their boat and made him comfortable. Then they began to sail to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

As the sun was setting, Jesus fell fast asleep. Soon the stars came out, and the moon was reflected in the calm waters of the sea.





When the crowds saw Jesus leaving, they ran to the shore. They wanted to stay close to Jesus.

"This is no ordinary man," said the people. "We must follow him!" They jumped into small boats and rowed out into the Sea of Galilee.

As the sun set and the quiet night began, the people in the small boats hurried to catch up to Jesus.




Suddenly dark clouds filled the sky. A strong wind swept through the mountains and out onto the sea. Huge waves began to form. Soon the waves were crashing over the boat, filling it with water!

The disciples were strong fishermen. They knew how to handle a boat. They fought the wild wind, they baled the rushing water, they pulled on the rough ropes.

But this was no ordinary storm!





The disciples were so busy fighting the storm that they had forgotten about Jesus. But now they remembered.

"Master! Master!" they shouted, but their voices were swallowed by the powerful storm, and Jesus just kept on sleeping.

Lightning was flashing all around, and the air was filled with thunder. The disciples' boat began to sink.

"Master!" they shouted again. "Don't you care that we are going to die? Save us!"





Jesus woke up and looked around. He stood up and lifted his arms. "Peace!" he called to the storm. "Be still!"

Immediately the crashing waves became quiet. The stars came out. The moon reflected on the calm water. The terrible storm was gone!

Everyone was safe — even the people in the small boats following behind. Jesus turned to his disciples. "Why were you afraid?" he asked quietly. "Don't you trust me?"



And the disciples were filled with wonder.

"What kind of a man is this?" they whispered to each other. "Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

