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JESUS CALMS THE STORM

God is in Control

YEAR 2 – KINGDOM LIFE

UNIT 7: KINGDOM FAITH

1 | Teacher's Notes

Scripture Mark 4:35-41; John 14:27

Objectives To explain that

- Today's story is about Kingdom Faith. To have faith is to trust and obey Jesus, even when bad things happen.
- Jesus calmed the storm with his words. He could do this because he was God and he had power over the storm.
- The disciples were afraid because they did not yet fully understand that Jesus was Almighty God and that he was in control.
- Even though bad things happen, we do not have to be afraid. We can have peace in our hearts because God is in control. We can trust that Jesus is with us, and that he can bring something good out of any situation.

Memory Verse "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you....Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27 - NIV)

**ACNA
Catechism
Connections**

Today's story of Jesus Calms the Storm is connected to the following Catechism questions:

Q41 Why do you call God the Father "Almighty"? I call the Father "Almighty" because he has power over everything and accomplishes everything he wills. Together with his Son and Holy Spirit, the Father is all-knowing and ever present in every place.

Q218 How does God redeem evil? Though disaster, disease, death, and the evil deeds of his creatures may cause great harm and suffering, the almighty and all wise God can use them to bring about his good purposes, both in the world and in my life.

**Suggested
Materials,
Props, and
Costumes****Big story props:**

- Large Bible
- Kingdom Life storyboard (see photo)

Lesson Props: (see Props Document for instructions on how to make these)

- Blankets laid on the floor in the shape of a boat large enough for the children to sit in.
- Large blue plastic tablecloth laid on the floor beside the "boat".
- Storyboard symbol: "Jesus is in control" (wave)
- Large version of the storyboard wave symbol to use as a teaching aid.
- Cue cards are encouraged if a child reads the part

Costumes: Jesus, disciples (12, or fewer if there are not many children)

Memory Verse: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you....Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27 - NIV)

(Found on the last page of this lesson plan) Print out and place in large Bible.

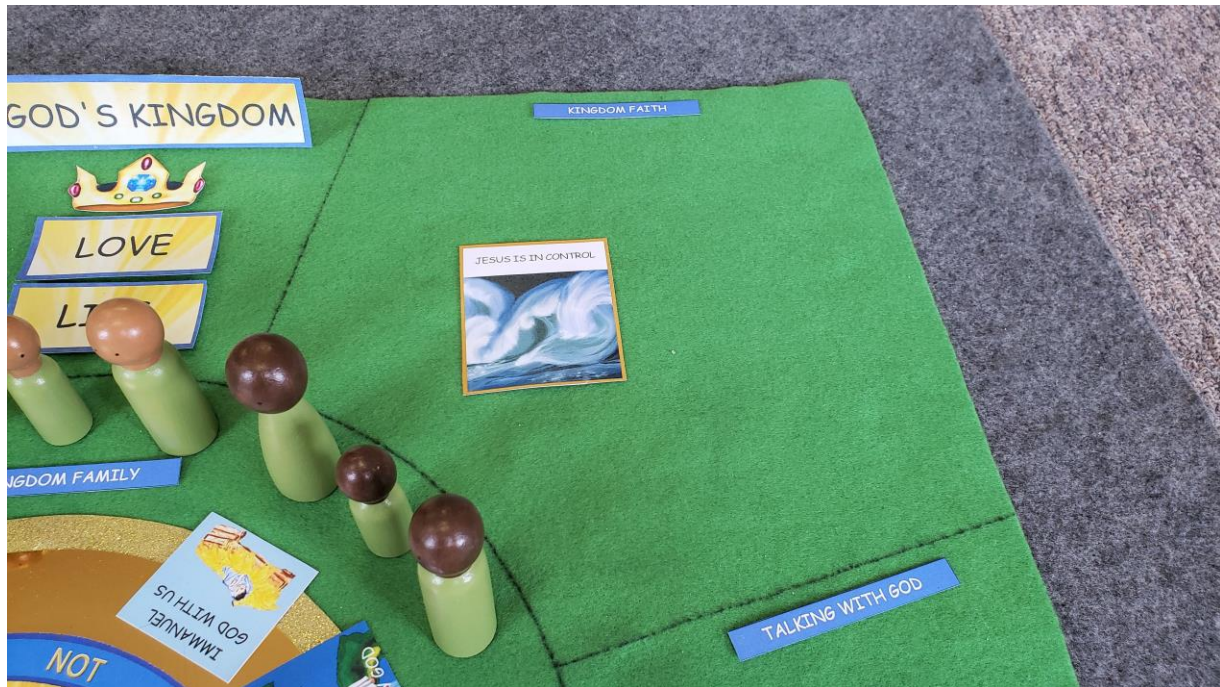
2 | Lesson Outline:

Welcome	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
Greeting & Collect for Purity	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity (<i>see Resource Section</i>)
Prayer of Confession	Say the Prayer of Confession (<i>see Resource Section</i>) Extinguish the candles
Music	My God is so big, so strong and so mighty Our God is a Great Big God Trust and Obey (Worshiphousekids.com) Be Still and Know that I am God (Hymn) <i>Please check internet for lyrics and music.</i>
Review of foundations	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment. <i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i>
Reading	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
Story Board Review	Ask review questions relating to props from previous lessons on story board. <i>Story board review is found in Section 4</i>
Props/Costumes	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) Big story props: Large Bible, Kingdom Life storyboard
Bible Story	<i>Proceed with story and questions found in Section 4.</i>
Related activities	<i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i>
Preparation for Communion & leaving class	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <i>See Resource Section.</i>

3 | Storyboard Progression



This is how the storyboard should look at the **start** of the lesson



This is how the Kingdom Faith section should look at the **end** of the lesson. Leave the storyboard like this for next week.

4 | Story and Questions

SETUP: *Have the stations for the play set up. Have the Kingdom Life storyboard set up in a different area. Ask for volunteers for the parts in the play and don simple costumes. Start the lesson at the storyboard.*

BIBLE: *Hold up the Bible and say: 'Today's story is from the Bible, and it is about Kingdom Faith.' (Place "Kingdom Faith" unit title on storyboard as shown.)*

STORY:

TEACHER: To have faith is to trust and obey Jesus. Today we are going to hear a story about trusting in Jesus when bad things or scary things happen.

Have you ever been afraid? *(Give children time to share.)*

In today's story the disciples were very afraid, because they were in a boat in a big storm *(point to large picture of wave)* and they thought they would drown. But Jesus did something amazing. Jesus calmed the storm with his words! This story is all about trusting in Jesus. Let's act out the story now.

ACTION: *Jesus stands up. The disciples and the crowd are sitting down.*

TEACHER: One day, Jesus was teaching by a lake called the Sea of Galilee. Many people had come out to hear his teaching.

When the evening came, Jesus said to his disciples:

JESUS: "Let's go over to the other side of the lake."

TEACHER: Jesus and his disciples got into a boat that would take them to the other side. Jesus was very tired from teaching the whole day, so he lay down to sleep in the back of the boat.

ACTION: *Jesus and the disciples climb into the blanket boat, and Jesus lies down in the back of the boat.*

TEACHER: When they were in the middle of the lake, suddenly the weather became stormy.

ACTION: *Two people hold either end of the blue tablecloth beside the boat, and start waving the tablecloth in increasing measure until it resembles waves crashing over the boat.*

TEACHER: At first the waves were only small. But then the waves got bigger and bigger until they started crashing over the boat!

The disciples were terrified and thought the boat would sink, but Jesus just kept sleeping. The disciples woke Jesus up and said: "Teacher! Don't you care if we drown?"

ACTION: *The disciples wake Jesus up and he stands up. The waves are still big.*

TEACHER: Jesus got up and did something amazing. Jesus spoke to the wind and commanded it to stop! He said to the waves:

JESUS: "Quiet! Be still!"

ACTION: *Lay the blue tablecloth down beside the boat.*

TEACHER: The wind and the waves obeyed and stopped. It was completely calm.

This is amazing! Have you ever heard of anyone calming a storm with his words? The disciples had never heard of that either, and they were amazed!

Jesus said to them:

JESUS: "Why are you so afraid? Don't you have any faith at all yet?"

TEACHER: The disciples had seen Jesus healing many people and performing many miracles, but they still did not fully understand that Jesus was God. They said to each other: "Who is this man? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Let's go over to the storyboard to finish our lesson.

ACTION: *Sit down by storyboard with the children.*

TEACHER: *(Hold up large wave picture.)* In our story, the disciples saw the **almighty** power of Jesus. He even had the power to calm a storm!

Jesus wants us to know that he is Almighty God, and we can trust him *(point to Almighty on the storyboard)*. He is all powerful, all knowing and everywhere present. Sometimes hard things happen in life. But even though bad things happen, we do not have to be afraid. Instead, we can call on Jesus, just like the disciples did. Because Jesus is Almighty, he is in control.

Let's put this picture on our storyboard *(place wave symbol on storyboard as shown)* to remind us that even in storms and hard times, we can have peace in our heart because we know that Jesus is with us. Jesus is in control, and he can bring something good out of **any** situation.

(Hold up the memory verse.) In our memory verse Jesus talks about the peace he wants to give us. Let's read this verse together: **"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you....Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."**

Life Application Prayer:

TEACHER: Lord Jesus, thank you that you are the Almighty God. When bad and scary things happen, we can trust in you. You are in control and your will is best. You tell us not to be afraid, but to receive your peace deep into our hearts. That peace comes from knowing that you are Almighty, and you are with us. Thank you that we can trust that you can bring something good out of any situation. Amen.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

- **What does this story tell us about Jesus?** (Jesus is in control because he is the Almighty God.)
- How did Jesus calm the storm? (With his words.)
- Why could Jesus calm the storm? (Because he is God and had power over the storm.)
- Why were the disciples afraid? (Because they thought they would drown, and they had not yet learned to trust in the power of Jesus. They did not yet fully understand that Jesus is God.)
- What did the disciples do when they were afraid? (Called on Jesus.)
- What can we do when we are afraid? (We can call on Jesus too.)
- Why can we have peace in our hearts when bad things happen? (Because we know that God is Almighty, he is in control, and we can trust him. Jesus is always with us, and we can trust that he can bring something good out of any situation.)

5 | Response Activities

Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement

- Have the children complete the activities in the Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement.

Optional activities

- Different learning stations, such as: a book table, modelling clay, colouring papers

"Peace I leave with
you; my peace I give
you....Do not let your
hearts be troubled
and do not be afraid."

(John 14:27)