

Jesus Calms the Storm

Resources: Memory stick with PowerPoint and videos, laptop (check cable), projector (check 2 cables), extension lead, spare t-shirt, Big Bible with story, A and B cards, music stand for Bible to free hands for A & B.

Passage: **Matt 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25**

Theme: **Christians believe we can ask Jesus for help when we're scared, and he will help us.**

Part 1: Story and Prayer

Part 2: Intro and Quiz

Part 3: Talk

N:B *If the assembly is being done with only 2 people if Part 3 does the intro and Part 1 does the quiz.*

Intro: Hello [name of School], we are so pleased to be back with you again! We're the Christ Church Schools' Team, I am _____, and this is _____ [Intro team]...

Today we are thinking about things that scare us! Something that scares me is... [share a personal fear here]. Does anyone want to be brave enough to tell us what things make you worried or scared? [Ask] Here are some things that people might be scared of: [PPT – spiders, snake, flying, storm, heights (it's the view from the Spinnaker Tower), the dark]

Today, we are hearing a story from the Bible about Jesus helping his friends when they are really scared.

Story: [Put Big Bible on music stand so both hands are free, but please do be familiar with the script. Have two other team lead A & B]

You are all going to be part of today's Bible story. I am going to split you in half. This half of the hall are going to be group A and this half of the hall group B.

Group A, you are going to be the sea. When I hold up the A card you are going to rock from side to side and say swoosh, swoosh, swoosh, gradually getting louder and louder. But when put the A card down you stop.

Let's practise. [Hold up A card, children do action. Put card down children stop. Do this a couple of times]

Now group B you are going to be the disciples. When I hold up card B you are going to put your hands on your checks and say 'Oh me, Oh my, we are all going to drown'

Let's practise. [Hold up B card, children do action. Put card down children stop. Do this a couple of times]

[When instructed hold up the relevant card, let them say their response once and then put the card down.]

Jesus had been talking to a crowd of people when he went to the lake with his disciples and got into a fishing boat. When the boat got to the

middle of the lake a storm began. The waves got bigger, and the boat began to rock. [Card A]

Meanwhile, Jesus had fallen to sleep in the bottom of the boat and even though the rain was falling, the wind was blowing, and the boat was rocking [Card A] Jesus did not wake up.

The disciples were afraid. The storm was raging, and they thought the boat would sink. [Card B]

The disciples didn't know what to do, so they shouted for Jesus. 'Jesus, Jesus, wake up, save us, we are going to drown!' [Cards A&B]

Hearing the disciples, Jesus stood up and said, "quiet, be still." And just like that, the wind stopped blowing, the rain stopped falling and the sea became calm.

Jesus turned and looked at his disciples who were wet and scared. "Why are you afraid," asked Jesus "do you not trust that I would keep you safe?"

The disciples looked at each other, they were no longer scared, they were amazed, and they asked each other, "who is this man?"

Talk: In our story from the Bible, Jesus' disciples are fishermen, so they are used to boats and very used to storms. But this storm is SO bad that even they get scared! But Jesus is asleep!!

Put your hand up if you get a bit scared when there's thunder and lightning outside?

But Jesus isn't scared at all. He is fast asleep.

Jesus' disciples are so scared, but they know that Jesus can do amazing things, so they say to Jesus: 'Wake up!'; 'Save us!'; 'We're going to drown' And then Jesus does a strange thing. He tells off the wind and the waves?! He says, 'quiet!' And the winds and the waves go quiet!

When the disciples ask Jesus for help, they probably aren't expecting him to stop the whole storm! But they know when they are scared that they could ask Jesus for help, and he will help them.

Christians believe that we can ask Jesus for help when we're scared, and he will help us. We might ask something like 'Jesus, please help me in this maths test,' or 'Help me not to be afraid of the dark'. Christians believe we can ask Jesus for help when we're scared, and he will help us. He might not take the scary thing away, like he did when He stopped the storm, but he might help us in a different way, like by helping us to not be scared anymore or sending a friend to be with us.

So next time you feel scared remember that Christians believe we can ask Jesus for help when we're scared, and he will help us.

Song: Who is this man? (All three verses)

Quiz: We've got a little quiz for you now, so put your hand up if you think you know the answer:

1. What is Jesus doing as the storm begins? [Sleeping]
2. What does Jesus say to the storm when his friends are scared?
[Quiet!]
3. What do Christians believe we can learn from this story from the Bible? [Christians believe we can ask Jesus for help when we're scared, and he will help us.]

Prayer: To finish our assembly, I am going to say a short prayer for us all. Before I do that, let's spend a moment thinking about what this assembly means for us. As we pause, why don't you think of a time that you felt scared and the person who helped to not feel scared anymore. You may want to close your eyes, so you are not distracted or focus on the candle on the screen. If you want to agree with my prayer, you can say 'Amen' at the end with me....

[flickering candle on PowerPoint – wait for a minute]

Dear God, thank you so much for school. Thank you that we have learnt that Christians believe we can ask Jesus for help when we're scared, and he will help us. I pray that you would bless every child and every member of staff in this school. Amen.

Close

Thank you for having us today. We will see you again soon.