



Jesus is Awesome – Jesus Walks on Water

Mark 6:45-52 & Matthew 14:22-33

God Statement: Jesus is Awesome

KEY VERSE: “Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With people, this is impossible. But with God, all things are possible.’
(Matthew 19:26, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: Jesus is Awesome

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how awesome Jesus is!

SAY:

Raise your hand if you like being in water. What is your favorite water activity to do? Turn to the person next to you and tell them. *Have a few kids share with the class after everyone shares with their neighbor.*

Last week, we learned about something miraculous that Jesus did. What was it? That's right! *Feeding five thousand people.* Today, we're going to learn about another miracle that Jesus performed that involves water. Does anyone remember our God Statement

right now? *Pause for responses.* Jesus is awesome, that's right! What does awesome mean? *Pause for responses.* Jesus is so powerful and amazing and He can truly do anything! Before we learn about this crazy miracle He performed, let's play a game.

PLAY:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Walk on Water Relay Race

Supplies: 6 pairs of feet x2

Say: *Today we get to play a very special game. Did you know that Jesus could walk on water? We are going to play a game where we pretend to walk across the water to get to the other side. Here is the big rule though.... you can only step on the footprints!*

Directions: Have children get into 2 teams. Give each team 6 feet. Two people from each team will be the "placers". These children will lay down the feet for their team member to step on. They have to get their team members from one side of the room to the other (one at a time) by placing down the feet for them to step on like stepping stones. Once the team member has stepped on it, they can pick it up and place it in front of them to keep the trail going. Then they run back and help the next team member.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the Bible Challenge slide..****

BIBLE CHALLENGE**Host**

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

New Testament Books of the Bible**Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:**

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the NEW Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a “Bible Challenge” card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

****After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide.****

KEY VERSE**Host**

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God’s Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With people, this is impossible. But with God, all things are possible.’
(Matthew 19:26, NIRV)”**

**** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.****

OPENING WORSHIP**Worship Leader**

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it’s not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

**** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.****

BIBLE STORY**Lesson Video**

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Jesus is Awesome – Jesus Walks on Water

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE**Host**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies: none

Have you ever been in a boat? Let's all pretend we're on a boat for a minute. Ready?

Teacher can turn lights off and encourage kids to get comfortable by laying down or covering their eyes as they imagine they are on a boat.

- What sounds do you hear?
- What smells do you smell?
- What sights do you see?
- What does it feel like?
- Can you taste the water on your lips?

Encourage kids to keep their eyes closed.

- Can you feel the rocking of the boat?
- The wind is whipping up. The boat is rocking harder.
- Was that thunder?
- Do you feel the rain?

Say the next part in a low whisper to engage the kids more:

- Imagine that the sky is very dark. You can see lightning. You can hear thunder.
- In your imagination, look way out over the water. You see something white moving your way.

Say the next part getting progressively louder with excitement:

- It's Jesus!!! You know Him. He loves you.
- Is He in a boat? No, you don't see a boat. He is just WALKING ON THE WATER!!

- He looks right in your eyes. What does He want to say to you?

Pause for a moment to let the kids imagine in the silence.

Say the next part in a soft tone again:

- Jesus said something special to you. He takes your hand. He climbs in the boat with you.
- You are safe because Jesus is with you. Keep your eyes closed.
- The thunder fades away. The wind stops.
- You are back on shore. You feel very safe and loved.

Quietly invite everyone to open their eyes but continue to sit still for a moment in the silence.

Would anyone like to share about their experience? ***Let kids share.***

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.******

CLOSING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

******After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the “Compassion International” slide.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – ELIC & Iraq**Host**

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

Say: For the next couple of weeks, we're going to be focusing on what God is doing in the country of Iraq. Have any of you heard of the country of Iraq before or know where it is on the map? ***Point to Iraq on the classroom map.*** This is where Iraq is, and it's pretty far away, isn't it? Well, in the country of Iraq, there is a lot of violence, war, and division, especially amongst people who believe different things about God.

Say: There is an organization called ELIC – let's say that together, ELIC – who sends teachers to this country of Iraq to help teach the English language. ELIC started sending English teachers to Iraq and other countries because they felt God calling them to do so!

Say: Through teaching English, these followers of Jesus have had many opportunities to share God's love with the people they encounter in Iraq. Isn't that amazing? In a country with so much pain, violence, and hurt, God is still finding ways to show His love!

Say: It's probably not easy to be a teacher in this country... Do you think that would be easy to live somewhere you don't know and teach people another language? Especially in a place with so much division? Let's take a few minutes and pray for the ELIC teachers there – that God would continue to protect them and give them opportunities to share His love.

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the ELIC teachers. Encourage kids to take a prayer card at checkout to continue praying at home.

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING**Host**

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, always remember that you are safe and loved because Jesus is always with you.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

As part of Remember & Celebrate, use this time to chat with kids about all they have to be thankful for and enjoy a snack together.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
2. **Read/ Recap today's story:** Mark 6:45-52 and Matthew 14:22-33
 - a. **Who did Jesus call out to walk on the water towards Him? (Peter) What happened?** (Peter started to doubt Jesus and fall in, but Jesus saved him)
 - a. **How would you have felt if you were Peter in the story today?** (scared, excited, nervous, upset, etc.)
3. **Jesus picked Peter up when he started to fall in the water. Sometimes we have hard things we go through, but we can trust that Jesus is always right beside us ready to pick us up. Is there anything hard/scary/difficult you've been going through? How does it make you feel that Jesus will help you?**

Close small group in prayer.

Older Kids:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

2. **What did you learn about God from our story today?**
3. **Read scripture:** Mark 6:45-49
 - a. **How would you react if you saw someone walking on water?**
4. **Read scripture:** Matthew 14:27-31
 - a. **Who did Jesus call out to walk on the water towards Him? (Peter) What happened?** (Peter started to doubt Jesus and fall in, but Jesus saved him)
 - b. **How would you have felt if you were Peter in the story today?** (scared, excited, nervous, upset, etc.)

4. Jesus picked Peter up when he started to fall in the water. Sometimes we have hard things we go through, but we can trust that Jesus is always right beside us ready to pick us up. Is there anything hard/scary/difficult you've been going through? How does it make you feel that Jesus will help you?

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher
(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

MAKE: Jesus Walks on Water Craft

Supplies: 1 walk on water pager per child, scissors, glue, popsicle stick, crayons/markers

Directions: Pass out one color page per child. Have them cut out Jesus on the water and the water scene. Help children cut the slit in the water scene. Glue Jesus on the top of the popsicle stick and put the stick through the slit. Children can color the scene and then move the stick to make it look like Jesus is walking on water.

Say: *WOW! What an awesome story we heard today! Can you believe that Jesus walked on water? Not only that, but He made Peter walk on water and then protected Peter. Let's make this craft to help us remember our story, so we can go and tell someone else the good news!*



CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher
(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.

