

# Jesus Stops the Storm

Lesson 19

## Bible Story

Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:1,35-41

## Teacher Challenge

A small boat on the sea in the middle of a violent storm—and Jesus lay asleep in the boat! Fearful and in a panic, Jesus' friends called on Him. Jesus simply stood up and told the storm, "Be still." And the terrifying winds and waves became calm. "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" (Matthew 8:27). Jesus' friends were astonished at His power to calm the storm.

- ➔ What storms in your life have caused you to feel afraid?
- ➔ How has God made His presence and power known to you during those storms?

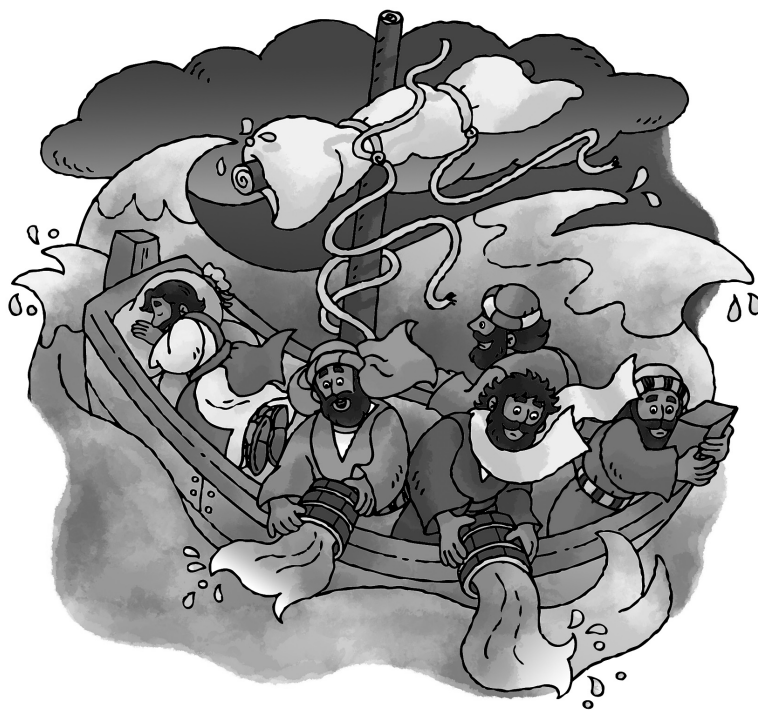
Jesus' friends became terrified in the midst of a powerful storm. But they called on Jesus and He helped them. When you call on Jesus, He will always be there to help you, too. Reassure the children in your classroom that God is powerful enough to always take care of them, even when they feel afraid.

**God's Word**  
"Great is our Lord and mighty in power."  
Psalm 147:5

**God's Word and Me**  
I can ask Jesus for help  
because of His great power.

## Teacher's Planning

1. Choose which centers you will provide and the order in which children will participate in them. For tips on schedule planning, see page 9.
2. Plan who will lead each center, making sure to have one adult for approximately every six children. For staffing tips and ideas, see page 12.



# Play to Learn

Lesson 19

## Active Game Center: Stormy Sea

### Collect

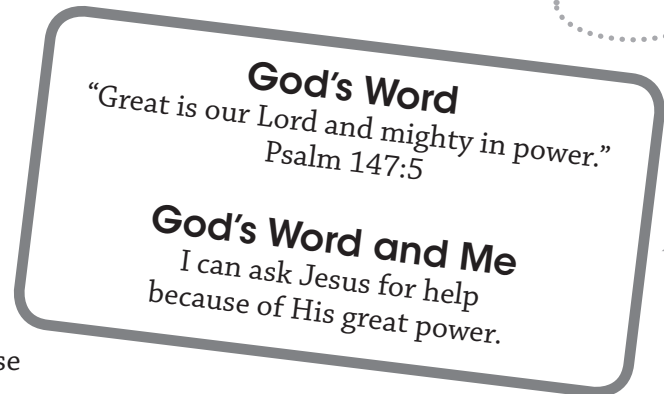
Bible, large blue bedsheet or tablecloth, beach ball or stuffed toy.

### Do

1. Children stand around bedsheet or tablecloth and hold edges to make fabric taut. Children raise and lower their arms to make waves in fabric.
2. Place beach ball or toy in middle of bedsheet or tablecloth. Children raise and lower their arms to watch ball or toy being tossed about by the waves.

### Talk About

- ➔ **Our Bible story tells about a time Jesus helped His friends who were in a boat. A big storm came up and the boat was tossed about by the waves. Let's play a game to make waves!**
- ➔ **If you were in a boat, Ethan, what are some of the things you would see? How might you feel if there was a big storm? Jesus' friends were glad He helped them in a big storm. We can ask God for help anytime!**
- ➔ **The Bible says, "Great is our Lord and mighty in power." "Lord" is another name for God. Pray briefly, Thank You, God, for helping us when we're afraid.**



### For Younger Children

To get started with this activity, lay the bedsheet or tablecloth on floor and have children stand around edges, then instruct children to pick it up.

### For Older Children

Place an object on the floor under the bedsheet or tablecloth. While children make waves, one child crawls under fabric to collect object. Repeat so all children have a turn.

# Play to Learn

Lesson 19

## Art Center: Storm Clouds

### Collect

Bible, brown construction paper, scissors, ½-inch (1.3-cm) wide foil strips, cotton balls, construction paper in dark colors, craft sticks, glue.

### Prepare

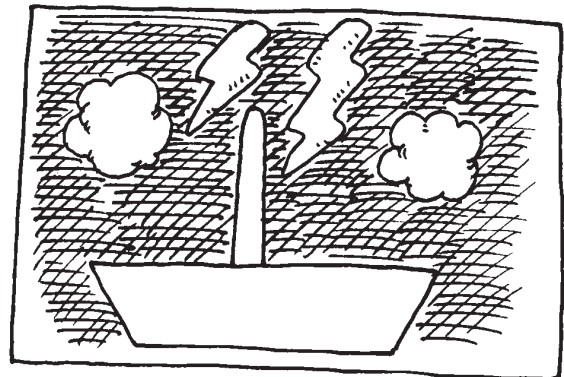
Cut boat shapes from brown construction paper.

### Do

1. Children glue boat shape and craft stick as mast onto dark construction paper.
2. Children make storm scene by bending foil into lightning zigzags and stretching out cotton balls to make clouds. Children glue lightning zigzags and clouds to paper above boat.

### Talk About

- **In today's Bible story, Jesus and His friends traveled in a boat. A big storm came and Jesus' friends were afraid. Jesus' friends asked Him for help, and Jesus made the storm stop! Let's make some pictures of a boat in a storm.**
- **The Bible says, "Great is our Lord and mighty in power." "Lord" is another name for God. When we say God is "mighty in power," we mean that God is so powerful, He can do anything! Jesus is so powerful, He can help us every day.**
- **Pray briefly, Dear God, thank You for Jesus' great power and for His help.**



### For Younger Children

Demonstrate how to bend foil into zigzags.

### For Older Children

Provide blue or white chalk for children to draw waves.

# Play to Learn

Lesson 19

## Block Center: Block Boats

### Collect

Bible, a blue covering (blue plastic tarp, blue blanket, several large sheets of blue construction paper, blue bedsheet, etc.), blocks, toy people.

### Do

1. Place blue covering on floor. Children pretend covering is water and use blocks to build boats on it.
2. Children play with boats and toy people, pretending the boats are sailing in calm and then stormy weather.

### Talk About

- ➔ **In today's Bible story, Jesus and His friends were in a boat during a big storm. Jesus helped them and kept them all safe! Let's use our blocks to build some boats.**
- ➔ **Jesus' friends were frightened by the storm. But Jesus said, "Quiet! Be still!" And the storm stopped! Jesus has great power. The Bible says, "Great is the Lord and mighty in power." "Lord" is another name for God. When we say God is "mighty in power," we mean God is so powerful He can do anything!**
- ➔ **Jesus helped His friends when they were afraid. When are you afraid? We can ask Jesus for help, because Jesus helps us when we are afraid.**



**God's Word**  
"Great is our Lord and mighty in power."  
Psalm 147:5

**God's Word and Me**  
I can ask Jesus for help  
because of His great power.

### For Younger Children

Instead of building boats with blocks, children pretend blocks are boats and play with them on the pretend water.

### For Older Children

Children use blocks to build a boat large enough for several children to sit inside. Children act out the story as you use the suggestions above to briefly retell it.

# Play to Learn

Lesson 19

## Science Center: Fruit Floats

### Collect

Bible, grapefruit and/or orange, knife, large bowl or dishpan, water, spoons, paper towels.

### Prepare

Cut fruit in half. Scoop out insides. Fill large bowl or dishpan halfway with water. (Note: For a large class, prepare one setup for every six to eight children.)

### Do

1. Float grapefruit and/or orange halves in large bowl or dishpan of water.
2. Children watch what happens as they take turns placing spoonfuls of water in fruit boats. Use paper towels to clean up spills.

### Talk About

- **The Bible tells of a time Jesus and His friends were in a boat. A strong wind began to blow. The boat rocked so much that water got inside the boat. Let's see what happens when too much water gets in a boat!**
- **Jesus' friends were very afraid when the storm began. But they were glad when Jesus helped them! Wendy, when might you feel afraid? Jesus helps you when you are afraid.**
- **The Bible says, "Great is our Lord and mighty in power." "Lord" is another name for God. We can ask God for help, because of His great power!**
- **Pray briefly, Thank You, God, for Your great power. Thank You for helping us when we're afraid.**



### For Younger Children

When water spills or splashes on the table, speak matter-of-factly. **Carissa, I see the water spilled on the table. Here is a towel to wipe it up.** Help the child as needed. Then thank the child for his or her help. **Thank you, Carissa. Cleaning up spills is a way to help us all!**

### For Older Children

Children make boat shapes from foil and float them in water.

**God's Word**  
"Great is our Lord and mighty in power."  
Psalm 147:5

**God's Word and Me**  
I can ask Jesus for help  
because of His great power.



# Listen to Learn

Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:1,35-41

Lesson 19

## Collect

Bible, Bible Story 32 pictures from *God's Story for Me Poster Pack #1*, *Preschool Music #1* CD and player, paper, marker.

## Greet Each Other

Lead children in saying the following rhyme:

**Let's play Copycat just for fun.**

**Let's copy (Julie). She's the one.**

**Whatever she does, we'll do the same.**

**That's how we'll play the Copycat game.**

Julie does a motion (jumps with both feet, touches head, pats legs, turns around, looks up and then down, hops on one foot, etc.). Children copy her. Julie points to next child to be named in the activity. Repeat until all children have been named and have demonstrated a motion for group to copy.

## Tell the Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 8. Tell the story using the pictured motions (keywords in bold) or show Bible Story 32 pictures.

**What happens in a very big storm? Listen to find out how Jesus stopped a very big storm.**



One night Jesus and His friends were sailing across the lake in their boat. Jesus was very tired. He lay down in the back of the boat. Soon He was **asleep**.



Suddenly, the wind began to blow. Ooooooo! Ooooooo! The wind **blew** harder and harder. The little waves got bigger and bigger. Splish-splash! Splish-splash! The big waves hit hard against the little boat. Water splashed into the boat. Splash! Splash! Splash! The boat was filling with water.

"I'm afraid," one of Jesus' friends might have shouted.

"Jesus! Help us!" shouted another friend. "Don't You care that our boat is sinking?"

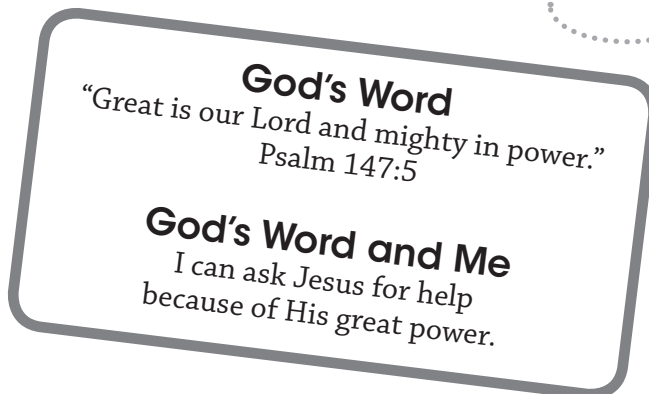


Jesus woke up. He felt the strong winds blowing. He saw the big waves splashing. Jesus stood up and said, "Quiet! Be still!" And **just like that**, the wind stopped blowing. The big waves stopped splashing. Splish. Splish. The little waves rocked the boat gently again.

"Why were you so afraid?" Jesus asked His friends. "Don't you know that I love you?"



Jesus' friends were surprised that the winds and the waves had obeyed Jesus. Jesus' friends were **glad** Jesus helped them when they were afraid.



## Talk About the Story

**What did Jesus do to help His friends?** (Jesus stopped a very big storm.) **Jesus helped His friends when they were afraid. Jesus has great power. We can ask Jesus for help, too! When are some times you are afraid? Whenever you're afraid, you can ask Jesus to help you!**

**Option:** Provide rhythm instruments for children to use while singing "I Will Sing."

## Sing to God

**Let's sing a song about all the times we can remember God's love.** Lead children in singing "I Will Sing" (track 6 on CD). **I'm glad Jesus uses His great power to help us every day!**

## Hear and Say God's Word

Holding your Bible open to Psalm 147:5, say verse aloud. **When we say God is "mighty in power," we mean that God is so powerful, He can do anything!** Then lead children in repeating the verse after you a few times in this manner: Say the verse very quietly the first time and then a little bit louder each time you repeat the verse until you are speaking in a normal speaking voice. Continue repeating verse, getting softer on each repetition until speaking very quietly again.

## Pray to God

**Dear God, thank You for showing us that You have power to help us when we are afraid. We are glad You love us and care for us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

## Praise to God

Print the first letter of each child's name on separate sheets of paper. Lay the papers on the floor. Children walk around making storm sounds (crashing waves, blowing wind). When you say, "Quiet. Be still!" children stop making storm sounds and find the paper with the first letter of their name. Point to one or more children (depending on the size of your class) and say, **Jesus loves and helps Anthony and Abigail!** Repeat activity until each child has been named. **I'm glad Jesus loves and helps each one of us!**

# Talk to Learn

## Lesson 19

### Bible Story Activity Pages Center

#### Collect

A copy of Activity 32 from *The Big Book of Bible Story Activity Pages #1* for yourself and each child, crayons or markers; optional—small lengths of blue yarn, glue.

#### Do

Lead children to complete pages following the instructions. (Optional: Children glue yarn lengths to one or two wave outlines.) Use the conversation suggestions as children complete their pages and retell the story.

### Preschool Puzzle Center

#### Collect

Copies of Puzzles 37 and 38 (p. 81 and p. 83 from *The Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles*) for each child; pencils, crayons or markers.

#### Do

Children complete the puzzles and color pages. Use the conversation suggestions on the pages.

### Read-Aloud Story Center

#### Collect

A copy of Story Picture 19 from *The Big Book of Read-Aloud Stories #1* for yourself and each child, crayons or markers.

#### Do

Read the story and distribute pictures. Use the conversation suggestions as children complete their pages.

