

Lesson 19

-Jesus Calms The Storm-

Jesus Calms the Storm

2-5 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us all together today. Please help us learn more about you and your son Jesus. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the story of Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4: 35-41). You can use a children’s bible or just tell it in such a way that the children can understand it.

Mark
4: 35-41

Discussion:

Ask the children who helps them when they are sick or when they are having a bad day. Many will mention different family members such as mom, dad, a sibling, grandparent, aunt or uncle. Explain to them that God and Jesus can help us through our hard days too, just like Jesus helped the disciples in the storm.

Craft:

Have the children make boats and disciples. Precut toilet paper tubes in half. Precut 13 Popsicle sticks down for each child to fit in the toilet paper tubes so that they can “stand” up inside of it. Let the children color their toilet paper tube which will be the boat. Then let them draw faces on the Popsicle sticks and color clothes on them to be the 12 disciples and Jesus. Help the glue or tape the Popsicle sticks standing up in the toilet paper tube.

Song:

Sing the song He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands

He’s got the whole world in His hands,
 He’s got the whole world in His hands,
 He’s got the whole world in His hands,
 He’s got the whole world in His hands.

2nd time through: He’s got the little bitty babies in His hands...

3rd time through: He’s got the mommies and the daddies in His hands...

4th time through: He’s got you and me brother in His hands...

5th time through: He’s got you and me sister in his hands...

Repeat original verse



Closing Prayer to thank God for taking care of us all of the time, especially when we are not having good days. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for caring for us when we are having a hard day. Please help us to remember that you will help us when we need help. Keep us safe in you name. Amen.”

6-8 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together again on this day. Help us to learn from your words and to follow in your footsteps. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the story of Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4: 35-41). You can use a children’s bible or just tell it in such a way that the children can understand it.



Mark
4: 35-41

Discussion:

Ask the children if they think about asking for God’s help when they are having a hard day. Explain to them that God will help them get through the tough days if they will just ask.

Activity:

Ask the children what kinds of things upset them. Write about eight to ten of their answers on a piece of paper. Tell the children that these are the crazies. Tell them that you are going to read some crazies then read some calm downs from the Bible. Tell them to wiggle one finger, arm, leg or their head when you read a crazy. Then tell them to stop wiggling one thing each time you read a calm down. Read from your list of crazies. After the children are wiggling all over, begin reading calm downs. For the calm downs you can use the following list of verses:

Philippians 4:6, Luke 12:25, Psalm 23:1, Isaiah 7:4b, Proverbs 16:4a, Psalm 147:3a, Matthew 28:20b. Discuss what we can do at home when the crazies are getting to us.

Closing Prayer to thank God for helping us during our tough times. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for helping us during our crazy times. Please help us to remember to turn to you when we need help. Keep us safe in your name. Amen.”

9-11 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together to fellowship with each other once again. Please help us to learn from your words and do the things you want us to do. Amen.”

Discussion and Activity:

Tell the students that you just talked to the Queen of England on the phone. Then ask them if they believe you. Explain that they have doubted you. Explain what doubt is. Then have the students get into small groups of two to four. Have them come up with three stories, two false stories and one true one. Give them a few minutes to come up with their stories, and then have each group share their stories with everyone else. If the students think the story is true, have them give a thumbs up sign, if they believe it is false, have them give a thumbs down sign. After the class has shown what they think on the three stories have the group tell which story was true.

Now talk about how hard it is sometimes to know what to doubt and what not to doubt when you don't know people very well. Explain that it is easier to trust someone when you know that they love you. Tell the students that they are going to learn about a time when the disciples doubted Jesus, even though there was no reason to doubt him.

Bible Story:

Have several students alternate reading Mark 4: 35-41, which is the story of Jesus calming the storm.



Mark
4: 35-41

Activity:

Give each student a small box or jar and several little slips of paper. Have them write their fears and doubts on the slips of paper then put them in the jar or box. Explain to them that this is their “Let Go and Let God Jar (or box)” and any time that they have a worry, fear or doubt they can write it down and put it in so that they can let go of their fears, worries and doubts and let God take care of them.

Closing Prayer to ask God to help us to trust Him to take care of our problems. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for being there for us. Please help us to remember to let you help us through our problems. Keep us safe in your care. Amen.”

12-14 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together once again to worship you. Please help us to be open to learning more about you. Help us also to follow in your ways. Amen.”

Discussion and Activity:

Tell the students that you just talked to the Queen of England on the phone. Then ask them if they believe you. Explain that they have doubted you. Explain what doubt is. Then have the students get into small groups of two to four. Have them come up with three stories, two false stories and one true one. Give them a few minutes to come up with their stories, and then have each group share their stories with everyone else. If the students think the story is true, have them give a thumbs up sign, if they believe it is false, have them give a thumbs down sign. After the class has shown what they think on the three stories have the group tell which story was true.

Now talk about how hard it is sometimes to know what to doubt and what not to doubt when you don't know people very well. Explain that it is easier to trust someone when you know that they love you. Tell the students that they are going to learn about a time when the disciples doubted Jesus, even though there was no reason to doubt him.

Bible Reading:

Have several students alternate reading Mark 4: 35-41, which is the story of Jesus calming the storm.



Mark
4: 35-41

Discussion:

Ask the students if they can bring too many worries or concerns to Jesus, why or why not. Ask them why Jesus is able to understand their fears and worries. Ask them if we can always depend on Jesus.

Closing Prayer to thank God for taking care of our fears and worries and to ask God for help in remembering to turn our fears and worries over to Him. For example:

“Thank you Lord for taking our fears and worries from us. Thank you for being there for us all of the time. Help us remember to trust you and not doubt you. Keep us in your care always. Amen.”

6-8 Years:

Opening Prayer to welcome the start of class. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us all here on this day. Please help us all to learn from your Word. Help us also to do what is right. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the story of Jesus visiting Mary and Martha (Luke 10: 38-42). You can tell the story using a children’s bible or just tell it in such a way that this age group can understand it.



Luke
10: 38-42

Discussion:

Ask the children why Martha did not listen to Jesus when He was telling stories. Ask them if they have ever felt like they were too busy to visit with family members that from out of town. Explain that Martha loved Jesus very much, but that she felt like she was too busy to sit and listen to His stories. Emphasize that it is hard sometimes to take a break from what we are doing to talk to God and let Him know that we still know that He is there, but it is important to do so.

Activity:

Give the children a piece of paper. Have them write, “Remember to make time for God.” Then have them draw some of their favorite activities as well as a bible and a cross as a reminder to make time for God everyday.

Closing Prayer to thank God for the time He gives to us and to ask Him to help us remember to make time for Him and Jesus. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for all of the time that you have for us. Help us remember to make time for you and Jesus. Help us not to get so busy that we forget about you. Keep us safe in your Holy name. Amen.”

9-11 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together once again to worship you. Please help us to learn from your words. Help us to be more like you. Amen.”

Discussion:

Ask the students what kinds of activities that they are involved in at school. Ask them what they do after school. Now ask them if they ever get so busy that they forget to talk to and listen to God.

Bible Story:

Have the students take turns reading Luke 10: 38-42, which is the story of Jesus visiting Mary and Martha.



Luke
10: 38-42

Discussion:

Refer back to the discussion before the Bible reading. Have the students think about whether they can identify more with Mary or Martha. Would they make time and sit and listen to Jesus if He were to walk into their house one day after school, or would they be too busy with homework or dance lessons or baseball practice. Emphasize the importance of making that time for God everyday as Mary did that day. Reiterate how disappointed Martha was that she did not make the time for Jesus.

Activity:

Give the students several colored index cards. Let them decorate the index cards with markers and have them write on each one, “Remember: Make time for God.” Tell them to put the cards in places where they will see them during the week, such as on their bathroom mirror, in the books they are reading, in their desks, etc.

Closing Prayer to thank God for making time for us whenever we need Him and to ask Him to help us remember to make time for Him. For example:

“Thank you God so much for all of the time that you have for us. Please help us to remember to make time for you everyday. Help us remember that you are number one. Keep us safe in your name. Amen.”

12-14 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together on this day to worship you. Help us to learn from your words. Lead us down the path of righteousness as we come together for your glory. Amen.”

Discussion:

Ask the students what kinds of activities that they are involved in at school. Ask them what they do after school. Now ask them if they ever get so busy that they forget to talk to and listen to God.

Bible Reading:

Have the students take turns reading Luke 10: 38-42, which is the story of Jesus visiting Mary and Martha.

**Discussion:**

Refer back to the discussion before the Bible reading. Have the students think about whether they can identify more with Mary or Martha. Would they make time and sit and listen to Jesus if He were to walk into their house one day after school, or would they be too busy with homework or dance lessons or baseball practice. Emphasize the importance of making that time for God every day as Mary did that day. Reiterate how disappointed Martha was that she did not make the time for Jesus.

Discussion:

Have the students get into pairs and talk about ways that they can make time for God and ways that they can remember to make that time for God. Give them several minutes to do this, and then have each pair share their ideas with the rest of the class.

Closing Prayer to thank God for the unlimited time that He has for us and ask for His help in remembering to take time out to listen to Him and Jesus. For example:

“Thank you God for the unlimited time that you have for us, your children. Please help us to remember that you are there and to make time for you in our busy lives. Without you we would not have life at all. Please remind us of your presence when we begin to busy ourselves so much that we forget. Please keep us safe in your care. Amen.”