



# Jesus Walks on Water

**Scripture:** Mark 6:45-51; John 6:16-21

**Bible Memory:** Psalm 147:5

“Our Lord is great and very powerful. There is no limit to what he knows.” (ICB)

“Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.” (KJV)

**Focus:** ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.











## Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Although the Gospels include numerous stories about Jesus’ awesome power, few are more fascinating and unusual than the story of Jesus walking on water. This miracle proves Jesus’ power over nature. We can trust that this powerful Lord will take care of us too. Share with the children your enthusiasm and amazement over your powerful Savior!

## Bible Background for the Teacher

Lake Galilee is below the level of the Mediterranean Sea in a semitropical climate. Cold, snow-capped Mt. Hermon is not far away. Sometimes strong afternoon winds or sudden violent storms rush down the mountainside and onto the lake below, as cold air meets warm. Jesus’ disciples were making slow progress against such winds and the waves stirred up by those winds. Sometime between three and six o’clock in the morning, Jesus came to His disciples.

## Lesson 5 at a Glance

<p><b>1 GETTING STARTED</b> Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>explore water</i>.</p>	<p> <b>Quick Step</b> Sink or Float</p> <p> <b>The Get-Well Hospital</b> (unit center)</p> <p> <b>Watery Snacks</b></p>	<p><b>HeartShaper Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Teaching Picture 5</i></li> <li>• none</li> <li>• none</li> </ul>	<p><b>Other Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tub of water, paper towels, items that sink or float</li> <li>• unit center supplies (see unit 1 pages and activity)</li> <li>• (see activity)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 BIBLE DISCOVERY</b> Use all these activities to help children <i>tell how Jesus surprised His followers</i>.</p>	<p> <b>Sing and Pray</b></p> <p> <b>Bible Time</b> Jesus Walks on Water</p> <p> <b>Bible Review</b></p> <p> <b>Bible Memory</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Resources CD, Resources CD “Jesus Walks on Water” and Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable files, Resources sheet 4 Bible story figures 5a and 5b with easel and No Limit sign 5c</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CD player, Bible, blue bed-sheet, shoe box, tape, electric fan, ruler, masking tape</li> </ul>
<p><b>3 GROW AND GO</b> Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>name things Jesus did to show His power</i>.</p>	<p> <b>Quick Step</b> Jesus’ Power Fliers</p> <p> <b>No Limit! Pictures</b></p> <p> <b>Jesus’ Power</b></p> <p><b>Closing the Hour</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Make-n-Share for lesson 5 and sticker of Jesus, Teaching Pictures 1–5</i></li> <li>• <i>Resources sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c</i></li> <li>• <i>Resources CD, Resources sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c</i></li> <li>• <i>Heart Tugs issue 5</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• colored pencils, blunt-tip scissors, jumbo craft sticks, tape, reusable adhesive</li> <li>• children’s Bibles, Bible story picture books about Jesus</li> <li>• CD player</li> <li>• none</li> </ul>

# Getting Started (10-15 minutes)

- 1 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore water.

## Welcome

- Use a Scout puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their offering money.

## Quick Step Sink or Float

Let children experiment with items to see which will sink or float. Encourage them to try filling some containers with water or objects to see when they sink. (Example: How many coins does it take to sink a paper cup?)

**SAY: Jesus is very powerful because He is the Son of God. ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Show the teaching picture. Jesus should have sunk, but He didn't! Let's see what things will sink in water and what will float, or stay on top of the water.**

**ASK: Will this sink or float?**

**Can you float standing up in the water?**

Have children divide the items on paper towels by what sinks and floats.

## The Get-Well Hospital (unit center)

**SAY: Jesus has power to do many things, like healing people who are sick. ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water too! Let's think about some ways water could be used in our Get-Well Hospital.**

Show the supplies. Let children think of ways that water would be used in a hospital. Suggest and model ways to use the water. (Examples: cleaning the hospital and the doctor's tools, giving water to patients to drink or to take medicine, washing hands, wiping foreheads)

**ASK: Why is water so important?**

**Who created water for us to use?**

### *Especially for 4s!*

Name one way at a time that water is used in the hospital, and have children play-act using water in that way.

## Watery Snacks

**SAY: Today we are exploring water. God gave us water to use for many things. In our Bible story today, we will hear how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's use some water for our snacks.**

Have children use water in various ways: wash and dry their hands, add drink mix to a pitcher of water and pour the drink into cups, wash fruit in a bowl of water and dry it on towels. As children do the activities and enjoy the snack, talk about water. Note: Check food allergies before serving snacks, and have an alternative one available.

**ASK: Why is water so important?**

**How do you use water in your kitchen at home?**

**What foods do you make with water at your house?**

## Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

**Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.**

## Materials

Teaching Picture 5, tub of water, paper towels, classroom items that will sink or float (Examples: sponge, paper clip, plastic cup, ball, spoon, block, coins, small toys)



## Materials

unit center supplies (see unit 1 pages), bottles of water, spray bottles, washcloths, hand towels, mop



## Materials

2 bowls of water, hand towel, pitcher of water, lemonade (or other flavored drink-mix packet), large spoon, cups, grapes, strawberries, paper towels



## Cleanup

Give the children wet paper towels or wet wipes and have them clean the tables, chairs, and shelves. **SAY: You are using water to clean our classroom today.**



## Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

# Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2

Use all these activities to help children **tell how Jesus surprised His followers.**

### Materials

Resources CD tracks 2 and 5, CD player, Bible, blue bedsheet (or blanket)



### Materials

Resources sheet 4 figures 5a and 5b with easel attached, shoe box (approximately 10" long), tape (or glue), electric fan, blue bedsheet



### Before Bible Time

Plug in a fan near the sheet, out of children's reach. Attach boat to the long side of a shoe box.



### Something More!

Place an upside-down table on the sheet. Let children sit in the table and pretend they are in a boat as you tell the story.

Have a spray bottle of water nearby and mist children when the wind begins to blow.

### Materials

Resources CD track 8 and "Jesus Walks on Water" printable file, CD player



### Materials

Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file, Bible, Resources sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c, ruler (or paint-stirring stick), masking tape



## Sing and Pray

Sing "Jesus Went Around Doing Good" and "Our Lord Is Great."

PRAY: **God, You are great and powerful. There is no limit to what You know. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Have children sit on the floor, around the bedsheet. SAY: **Let's pretend this is a lake. Have you ever been to a lake? Can you stand on top of a lake?** Let children answer. **Our story is from the book of Mark, chapter 6, in the Bible. Show Mark 6. It takes place on a lake.**

## Bible Time

SAY: **One evening after Jesus had been teaching, He sent the people home. Jesus told His followers to go across Lake Galilee.** Place the box-boat on sheet "lake," and move it gently across to the middle of the sheet.

**Then Jesus went up a mountain to pray. Late in the night, Jesus looked out and saw His followers' boat in the middle of the lake. The wind was blowing.** Turn the fan on high. **Jesus' followers were having trouble rowing the boat.**

**So Jesus went to help His followers. Do you think He got into a boat? Do you think He started swimming?** Show Jesus. **No! Instead, Jesus started walking right on top of the water, just as though it was land!** ♥ **Jesus has power to walk on water.** Move Jesus toward the boat.

**When Jesus' followers saw a man walking on the water, they were scared.** Have children pretend to be scared. **But Jesus called out, "Don't be scared. It's me—Jesus!"** Then Jesus got into the boat. Put Jesus in boat. **Jesus' followers were surprised! Let's act like Jesus' followers did when they knew it was Jesus.** Have children respond. **As soon as Jesus got into the boat, the wind stopped blowing.** Turn off fan. **Jesus went with His disciples to the other side of the lake.** Move the boat to the side of sheet. **Jesus' followers knew ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. They knew Jesus is God's Son.**

## Bible Review

Before class, print "Jesus Walks on Water" from the CD. Listen to the activity and be ready to lead in the motions.

Use the music activity to review the Bible story. Repeat as you have time.

ASK: **How did Jesus get to His followers?** (walked on top of water)

**How did the followers react?** (They were scared.)

**What happened to the storm?** (When Jesus got into the boat, the storm stopped.)

## Bible Memory Psalm 147:5

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD. Attach the No Limit sign to the ruler.

Read Psalm 147:5 while a child holds the Bible. Explain what No Limit means: SAY: **God knows everything; there is no end to what He knows.** Say the verse together several times while doing the motions. After each time, hold up the sign and shout together, "No limit!"

## Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **name things Jesus did to show His power.**

### Quick Step Jesus' Power Fliers

Before the activity, use reusable adhesive to post the teaching pictures around the room.

SAY: **Jesus is strong and powerful. ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's make power fliers. Then we'll name things Jesus did to show His power.**

Assist children as needed in assembling their power fliers. Be sure to cut along the wave lines. Ask each child to run to one of the teaching pictures, waving his power flier. He should then name something about Jesus' power shown in that picture. Remind the children there is no limit to Jesus' power.

ASK: **Who is more powerful than any of us? (Jesus)**  
**How did Jesus show His power?**

### No Limit! Pictures

SAY: **Today we learned from the Bible how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's look at some Bibles and books and find pictures of Jesus showing His power.**

Have children sit in a circle. Lay the No Limit sign in the middle of the circle. Give each child or pair of children a Bible or picture book. Whenever someone finds a picture that shows a way Jesus showed His power, he can pick up the No Limit sign and show the picture to the rest of the group.

ASK: **Why is Jesus stronger than anything or anyone else?**  
**How did Jesus show His power?**

#### Especially for 4s!



Select a book that pictures many of the things Jesus did. Hand the No Limit sign to one child and turn to a picture of Jesus. That child can tell what Jesus is doing in the picture. Hand the sign to another child and turn the page to another picture. Continue until everyone has had a turn.

### Jesus' Power

SAY: **Jesus has power to do anything. ♥ He has power to walk on water. Let's play a game and name things Jesus does to show His power.**

Have the children sit in a circle and pass the No Limit sign as you play "Our Lord Is Great." Pause the song. Whoever is holding the sign can name a thing Jesus does to show His power. Continue playing and pausing the song as more children name things Jesus does to show His power.

ASK: **How does it feel to know that Jesus is powerful?**  
**What is your favorite way Jesus shows His power?**

### Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and a copy of *Heart Tugs*. Mention to the parents the "Who Has the Power?" rhyme they can do with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See [www.heartshaper.com](http://www.heartshaper.com).

## Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

### Materials

*Make-n-Share* for lesson 5 and sticker of Jesus, colored pencils (or washable markers), blunt-tip scissors, jumbo craft sticks, tape (or glue), *Teaching Pictures* 1–5, reusable adhesive



### Something More!

Set up a box fan for children to put their fliers in front of.

### Materials

*Resources* sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c, children's Bibles, Bible story picture books about Jesus



### Materials

*Resources* CD track 5, *Resources* sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c, CD player



# Jesus Walks on Water

## Lesson 5 Extra Hour



**Scripture:** Mark 6:45-51; John 6:16-21

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**Focus:** ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

### Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Although the Gospels include numerous stories about Jesus’ awesome power, few are more fascinating and unusual than the story of Jesus walking on water. This miracle proves Jesus’ power over nature. We can trust that this powerful Lord will take care of us too. Share with the children your enthusiasm and amazement over your powerful Savior!

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## Lesson 5 at a Glance—Extra Hour

### 1 MORE! GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore water*.



**Quick Step**  
Walking on Water



Water Music



Spray Pictures

### HeartShaper Materials

- none
- none
- *Resources* CD lesson 5 coloring page printable file

### Other Materials

- large plastic bin, bath mat, water, towels
- clear glasses, water, food coloring, metal spoons
- white card stock, blue paint, paintbrushes, paint shirts, spray bottles of water

### 2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell how Jesus surprised His followers*.



**More! Sing and Pray**



**Bible Time—Another Way!**  
Jesus Walks on Water



**More! Bible Review**



**More! Bible Memory**

- *Resources* CD, *Resources* CD “Jesus Walks on Water” and Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable files, *Teaching Picture* 5, *Resources* sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c

- CD player, Bibles, blue bedsheet, large sheet of cardboard, utility knife, table

### 3 MORE! GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *name things Jesus did to show His power*.



**Quick Step**  
Scout Puppet Story



“Who Has the Power?”

**Saying Good-bye**

- none
- *Heart Tugs* issue 5
- *Heart Tugs* issue 5

- Scout puppet, small hand weight
- none
- clear glasses, water, food coloring, metal spoons

# More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore water.

## Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Spread a blue bedsheets on the floor. Gather children and let them take turns pretending to swim, float, boat, fish, and walk on the “lake.”
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

## Quick Step Walking on Water

**SAY: Today we are learning how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Can you walk on water? Let’s try. We will see whether anyone in our class can walk on water.**

Place a mat in the bin to keep children from slipping. Put a small amount of water in the bin. Have children remove their shoes and socks (and roll up pant legs). Have children take turns stepping into the bin. Encourage them to try to keep a foot on top of the water, without sinking. Hold their hands as they step in and out. Make sure the adults try as well.

**ASK: Is there anyone here who can walk on top of water? (no)**  
**What happens when you try?**

## Water Music



**SAY: Today we are learning how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let’s see if we can make musical sounds with water.**

Place glasses on the table and fill glasses with different amounts of water. Let the children help color the water with various colors of food coloring. Tap the sides of the glasses with spoons to make sounds. Work together to arrange the glasses in order from the lowest to the highest sounds.

**ASK: Why do some glasses make lower sounds and some make higher sounds? (There are different amounts of water in the glasses.)**  
**What other ways do you like to play with water?**  
**When does water make scary sounds? (thunderstorms)**

### *Especially for 4s!*

Give each child a glass. Pour water in each glass, a little more in each as you move down the line. Give children spoons and have them tap their glasses only when you point to them.

## Spray Pictures

Before class, use card stock to make copies of the coloring page.

**SAY: None of us are as great and powerful as Jesus, because He is the Son of God. Jesus has the power and strength to do anything. ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water! Let’s explore water by painting a picture of today’s Bible story.**

Have the children paint the lake on their coloring pages. Then help each child spray the paint with water. Talk about how the paint moves on the paper when children spray the water.

**ASK: What is one of your favorite things to do with water?**  
**What happens to water on a windy day? (It moves in big waves.)**

## Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

**Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.**

### Materials

large plastic bin (or small wading pool), bath mat, water, towels



### Materials

clear glasses (or jars), water, food coloring, metal spoons



### Materials

Resources CD lesson 5 coloring page printable file, white card stock, blue paint, paintbrushes, paint shirts, spray bottles of water



Ask parents or caregivers of children who wear hearing devices that cannot get wet for a way to modify this activity for their child.

### Something More!

Play a game of Simon Says, using a water theme. (Examples: Swim across the room. Swim like a fish.)



## Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

# More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

**2** Use all these activities to help children **tell how Jesus surprised His followers.**

### Materials

Resources CD tracks 2 and 5, CD player, blue bedsheet (or blanket), large sheet of cardboard, utility knife, Bible



## More! Sing and Pray

Before class, spread the bedsheet out on the floor. Cut a boat bottom from the cardboard and place it on the sheet “lake.” The cardboard boat should be big enough for all children to sit on, or make several boats and divide children into groups.

Sing “Jesus Went Around Doing Good” and “Our Lord Is Great.”

PRAY: **Dear God, thank You for the Bible. Help us as we learn about Jesus’ power. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

Have children sit on the cardboard boat. Hold up the Bible. SAY: **The Bible is a powerful book about a powerful God and His powerful Son, Jesus. Today’s story is from a New Testament book of the Bible called Mark, chapter 6. Show Mark 6. Let’s act out the story from our boat(s).**

### Materials

Resources CD track 8 and “Jesus Walks on Water” printable file, CD player, blue bedsheet (or blanket) and boat from More! Sing and Pray



## Bible Time—Another Way!

Before class, print a copy of “Jesus Walks on Water” from the CD. Listen to the activity and be ready to lead in the motions.

Have all the children sit in the boat and pretend to be Jesus’ followers. Play the Bible story music activity and have children respond from the boat with the appropriate motions. SAY: **♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Jesus’ followers were surprised when Jesus walked on water. No one else could walk on water! Only Jesus, the Son of God, can do such powerful things.**

### Materials

Teaching Picture 5



## More! Bible Review

Show the teaching picture. Then ask the children review questions. Encourage them to answer the questions with motions rather than words.

ASK: **Where were Jesus’ disciples?** (pretend to row a boat)

**What did Jesus go up a mountain to do after His followers left in the boat?** (bow in prayer)

**How did Jesus get out to the boat?** (pretend to walk on water)

**Why did Jesus go out to the disciples in the boat?** (pretend to have trouble rowing a boat)

**What did Jesus do that we cannot do?** (pretend to walk on water)

**How would you feel if you saw someone walking on the water?** (look scared)

**What can we do to praise Jesus?** (bow in prayer)



### Materials

Bibles, Resources CD track 5 and Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file, Resources sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c, CD player



## More! Bible Memory Psalm 147:5

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

SAY: **The Bible says that God is all-powerful and all-knowing. He has all the power and He knows everything. That’s what our Bible Memory says.** Have children practice opening their Bibles in the middle to the book of Psalms. Then say the Bible Memory together several times. After each time, instruct children to shake their heads and shout “No limit!” as you hold up the No Limit sign. Sing together “Our Lord Is Great,” using the motions to the Bible Memory.

## More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

**3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **name things Jesus did to show His power.**

### Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

### Quick Step “Scout’s Power”

Scout comes out with the weight. SAY: **Hi, Scout! You must be working on building your muscles so that you can be strong and powerful.** Help Scout lift weight several times. **You do look pretty strong.** Scout whispers to you.

**Scout thinks he is pretty strong and powerful. One day when someone left a skateboard on the sidewalk, Scout didn’t want anyone to trip over it, so he pushed and pushed** (Scout pretends to push with his nose) **and moved it out of the way.**

**Another day Scout showed his power when the trash can lid blew off into the street. Scout pulled and pulled.** Scout pretends to pull with his mouth. **He moved the lid back into the yard.**

**Finally Scout showed his power when a stranger came into the yard. Scout knew you are not supposed to talk to strangers, so Scout barked and barked** (Scout barks) **so his family would hear. The stranger went away.**

Talk to Scout. **Scout, you showed a lot of power when you helped. But today the children have learned about someone who has all power. The children learned that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Now that’s real power!** Scout nods and barks happily.

ASK: **Do you think Scout is as powerful as you are?**

**No matter how powerful we think we are, who is more powerful?**  
(Jesus)

**Why do you think Jesus shows His power?** (to show He is the Son of God)

### Materials

Scout puppet, small hand weight



### Materials

Heart Tugs issue 5



### “Who Has the Power?”

SAY: ♥ **Jesus has the power to walk on water. Jesus has the power to do anything. Let’s name ways Jesus shows His power.** Have children sit in a circle and practice a clapping rhythm—pat knees two times and then clap hands two times. Continue the rhythm as you lead “Who Has the Power?” Repeat the cadence, filling in different words for “walk on water.”

ASK: **Do we have power to do things like Jesus can?** (no)

**What other ways does Jesus show His power?**

#### Especially for 4s!



Ask children to name other ways Jesus shows His power. Do the rhyme with your assistant being the leader and you answering the questions.

### Saying Good-bye

- As you wait for parents, play Water Music from More! Getting Started.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to do the “Who Has the Power?” rhyme with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See [www.heartshaper.com](http://www.heartshaper.com).

### Cleanup

Sing “Cleanup Song,” found on the *Resources* CD Teacher Helps, as you encourage children to join you in cleaning the room.

