

Jesus Walks on Water

Lesson 5



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

Bible Memory: Psalm 147:5

“Our Lord is great and very powerful.” (ICB)

“Great is our Lord, and of great power.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Jesus surprised His followers when He walked across the water of Lake Galilee. They were not expecting Him to show up. Has He surprised you recently? Did He show His power in an amazing, supernatural way? During Jesus’ three and one-half years of ministry, He showed His power many times. He changed people’s lives forever. Jesus continues to do the same today.

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 as cold air meets warm. Jesus’ disciples were trying to row the six miles across this lake back to their home in Capernaum. They were making slow progress against the wind and waves. Sometime between 3:00 and 6:00 in the morning, Jesus came to His disciples.

Lesson 5 at a Glance

1 GETTING STARTED

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



Active Play

Quick Step
Pretend Play



Art

Water Art



Wonder

Water Play

HeartShaper Materials

- none
- *Make-n-Share* Water Art boat stickers for lesson 5
- none

Other Materials

- none
- resealable plastic bags, blue hair gel, glitter, clear packaging tape
- water table, water, beach towel, small plastic boats

2 BIBLE DISCOVERY

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



Sing & Pray

Sing and Pray



Bible Time

Bible Time
Jesus Walks on Water



Bible Review

Bible Review



Bible Memory

Bible Memory

- *Resources* CD; *Resources* CD “Jesus Walks on Water” and Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable files, sheet 3 Jesus stick puppet 5a, sheet 4 boat stick puppet 5b; *Teaching Picture* 5

- CD player, Bible, 2 rulers, tape, 2 chairs, blue bedsheet

3 GROW AND GO

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



Craft

Quick Step
Jesus’ Power Mobiles



Music

Bible Memory March



Game

Teaching Picture Shuffle

Closing the Hour

- *Make-n-Share* for lesson 5
- *Resources* CD
- *Teaching Pictures* 1–5
- *Heart Tugs* issue 5

- blunt-tip scissors, crayons, hole punch, yarn
- CD player
- none
- none

Getting Started (10-15 minutes)

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

Welcome

- Use a Scamper 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 Pretend Play

SAY: **Today's Bible story is about how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. There are all kinds of things we do with water in our homes each day. Let's pretend we are playing in water.**

Pretend to do some outdoor activities together. (Examples: jump into a pool, swim, walk with umbrellas, jump in rain puddles, squirt water from a hose, drink a glass of water)

ASK: **What are other ways you use water at home?
What is your favorite activity to do in water?**

Water Art



SAY: **Today's Bible story includes a lot of water and a boat and how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's make an art project of water and a boat.**

Give each child a resealable bag and boat sticker. Have children add their boat stickers to the outside of the bags. Put blue gel and glitter in each bag. Let the air escape as you gently seal the bag. Tape the tops closed. Have children squish the contents together. Note: If you can't find blue gel, add a drop of blue food coloring to clear gel.

ASK: **What can you do with your water art?
How do you use water each day?**

Especially for 2s!

Have 2s color and add stickers to prepared water art bags. Name some ways they encounter water each day.

Water Play

Before class, fill a water table with water and set it on a beach towel.

SAY: **Today's Bible story is about water and a boat and how ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's play with some boats in water.**

Guide the children to play with the boats in the water. Talk about floating, sailing, capsizing, and waves. Have the children make small waves with their hands. Emphasize to the children that anyone who purposely splashes another child will have to leave the activity.

ASK: **Does the toy boat float or sink in the water?
Have you ever been in a real boat on water? What was it like?
What happens to water when the wind blows strong? (Big waves are created.)**

Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

none



Materials


Make-n-Share lesson 5
Water Art sticker for each child, resealable plastic bags, blue hair gel (or blue gel toothpaste), glitter, clear packaging tape



Materials

water table (or dishpan) filled with water, beach towel, small plastic boats



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

Cleanup

Have children pretend to row boats around the room as they stop at places that need to be cleaned.



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.**

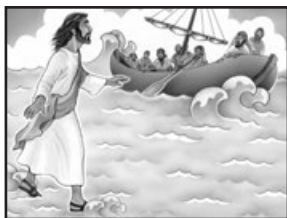
Materials

Resources CD tracks 2 and 5, CD player, Bible



Materials

Resources CD track 8 and “Jesus Walks on Water” printable file, CD player, Teaching Picture 5



Materials

2 chairs, blue bedsheet (or blanket), Resources sheet 3 Jesus stick puppet 5a and sheet 4 boat stick puppet 5b, 2 rulers (or paint-stirring sticks), tape



Materials

Bible, Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file



Sing and Pray

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

PRAY: **Dear God, we praise You that Jesus is great and very powerful.**

In Jesus’ name, amen.

ASK: **Did you know that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water? Our story today is found in the book of Mark in the Bible. Show Mark. Let’s find out how Jesus’ helpers learned about this special power.**

Bible Time

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

Show the teaching picture. SAY: **Jesus and His special helpers had had a busy day. Many people had come to listen to Jesus teach. Now it was evening, and Jesus and His helpers were tired. Jesus told His special helpers to get into a boat and go to the other side of a lake. Jesus stayed on shore. When His helpers were gone, Jesus climbed a hill. He wanted to spend time praying to God, His Father. Jesus’ helpers rowed the boat—that is, until a storm came along. The helpers rowed hard against the strong waves. They were afraid. Jesus knew His helpers needed His help, so He did something surprising—He started walking right on top of the water toward His helpers! ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. When Jesus got into the boat with His helpers, the storm stopped.**

Let’s act out this Bible story. We will pretend to get into a boat, go to sleep, and then wake up when a big storm begins to blow across the water. Play the Bible story activity from the CD, and lead children in the motions as they act out the story.

Bible Review

Create a simple puppet stage by draping a blue sheet between two chairs set about 4’ apart. Tape a ruler to the back of each stick puppet. Give the stick puppets to two children; ask them to kneel behind the puppet stage and use the puppets to retell the Bible story. Repeat until all children have had a turn using the puppets and telling the story.

ASK: **What happened when Jesus’ special helpers were in a boat on a lake?** (A storm came and began tossing the boat.)

What powerful thing did Jesus do? (Jesus came to His special helpers by walking on the water.)

Bible Memory Psalm 147:5

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

SAY: **Let’s review our Bible Memory words together.** Read Psalm 147:5 in your Bible. Show the children the words as you read, having the children say the verse with you. Then have them review the verse, using the motions from the CD. Ask children to name a way Jesus showed that He is great and very powerful. Be sure to include the fact that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Say the verse again.

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 Jesus' Power Mobiles

Before class, cut yarn into different lengths, four for each child.

SAY: **Jesus has great power. ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's talk again about how Jesus shows His power. Let's make Jesus' Power Mobiles to remember some Bible stories about Jesus' power.**

Assist children as needed in making and assembling their Jesus' Power mobiles. As children color the picture of Jesus, talk about times when Jesus showed His power.

ASK: **What can Jesus do that no one else can do?**

What is your favorite way that Jesus showed His power?

Bible Memory March

SAY: **Our Bible Memory words remind us that our Lord is so great and very powerful that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's remember Jesus' power by singing our Bible Memory song.**

Have the children sing and march as you play "Our Lord Is Great." Play the song several times, guiding the children to do a different movement each time: skipping, clapping, and so forth.

ASK: **How did Jesus show His power when He was living on earth?**

What do our Bible Memory words say about Jesus? (He is great and powerful.)

Teaching Picture Shuffle

SAY: **Today we learned that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's play a game to name other things Jesus did to show His power.**

Shuffle the teaching pictures and place them facedown on a table or the floor. Pick up one picture and show it to the children. Ask them to shout out a way shown on the picture that Jesus showed His power. Continue with each teaching picture. (Examples: Jesus made a man's son feel better. Jesus helped a man to walk. Jesus made a soldier's helper better. Jesus made a woman's son come back to life. Jesus walked on water.)

ASK: **How did Jesus show His power?**

What can we say to Jesus about His power? Lead children in a simple praise prayer to Jesus.

Especially for 2s!



Show the teaching pictures and give sentence reviews of the stories. Ask children to point to their favorite picture of a way Jesus showed His power.

Closing the Hour

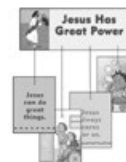
• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and this week's *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to do the What's the Weather? activity with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Materials

Make-n-Share for lesson 5, blunt-tip scissors, crayons (or washable markers), hole punch, yarn (or ribbon)



Craft



Materials

Resources CD track 5, CD player



Music

Materials

Teaching Pictures 1–5



Game

Jesus Walks on Water

Lesson 5 Extra Hour



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

Bible Memory: Psalm 147:5

“Our Lord is great and very powerful.” (ICB)

“Great is our Lord, and of great power.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

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Bible Background for the Teacher

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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
What’s the Weather?

Sink or Float

Water Uses

HeartShaper Materials

- Resources CD What’s the Weather? printable file, *Heart Tugs* issue 5
- none
- none

Other Materials

- crayons, reusable adhesive, toy microphone
- various items that sink or float, bucket of water, towel
- plastic cups, pitcher, watering can, measuring cups, dishcloths, dish towels, bucket, sponges, bath towels, washcloths

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 Poster printable files

- CD player, Bible, tan bedsheet, box fan, spray bottle of water, watercolor paints, cups of water, cotton swabs, paint shirts

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
Scamper Puppet Story

Jesus’ Power Game

Saying Good-bye

- none

- Resources CD, *Teaching Pictures* 1-5
- Resources CD, *Teaching Pictures* 1-5, *Heart Tugs* issue 5

- Scamper puppet, small toy boat

- construction paper, CD player, masking tape
- supplies from Jesus’ Power Game

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.
- Gather children to pretend to swim in a swimming pool. Practice strokes, diving, holding your breath, back floats.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation's policy for restroom breaks.

Quick Step What's the Weather?

Before class, print copies of the cloudy, stormy, rainy, and windy weather pictures from the CD.

SAY: **♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Today's Bible story took place on a lake in the middle of a storm. Let's pretend we are weather reporters. We'll tell about the rain and stormy waters.**

Let children pretend to be weather forecasters giving news updates about a storm on its way. Let each child select a weather picture to stand in front of. Display that picture on the wall. Then let children take turns using the microphone as they give the forecast. Children can tell how much rain is going to fall and how high the waves will be on a lake.

Give each child a copy of today's *Heart Tugs*. Help as needed in completing the What's the Weather? activity.

ASK: **What do you like about rain? What do you dislike? Have you ever seen big waves of water?**

Sink or Float



SAY: **♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Today's Bible story took place in a lake full of water. Let's learn about water by seeing which of these items float and which of them sink.**

Have the children guess which items will float and which will sink. Let them take turns placing the items in the bucket. Help the children think about why the item floated or sank.

ASK: **What other items might float or sink? How do you use water each day?**

Water Uses

SAY: **♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let's talk about water. We can pretend we are using water at home.**

Show the items you have provided. Guide children to discuss bathing, cleaning, cooking, and drinking. Allow them to pretend to do some of these activities with the items provided.

ASK: **What are some other ways you use water at home? What is your favorite use for water?**

Especially for 2s!

Show your 2s how to use one of the items you brought. Have each child pretend to use that item. Repeat with other items.

Focus

♥ Jesus has power to walk on water.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Resources CD What's the Weather? printable
file, reusable adhesive, *Heart Tugs* issue 5, crayons, toy microphone (or paper towel tube)



Something More!

Hot and snowy pictures are also included in the printable files.

Let children talk about how Jesus shows His power in these kinds of weather.

Materials

various items that sink or float and will not be damaged by water (Examples: toy boat, sponge, cork, stone, marble), bucket of water, towel



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

Materials

plastic cups, pitcher, watering can, measuring cups, dishcloths and dish towels, bucket and sponges, bath towels and washcloths



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 track 2,
CD player, Bible



More! Sing and Pray

Sing “Jesus Went Around Doing Good.”

PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that Jesus is great and very powerful.**

♥ **Jesus has power to walk on water. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

SAY: **Our story today from the Bible book called Mark (show Mark) happened on water. Let’s see how Jesus surprised His helpers when they were traveling by boat.**

Materials

tan bedsheet, box fan,
spray bottle of water,
Bible



Bible Time—Another Way!

Use the bedsheet as a boat. Put the sheet in the middle of the floor and have the children “get into the boat” (sit on the sheet). Lay your Bible open on your lap as you tell the Bible story from the boat. Turn on the fan and spray a fine mist above the children during the storm. Guide the children to respond at appropriate points in the story.

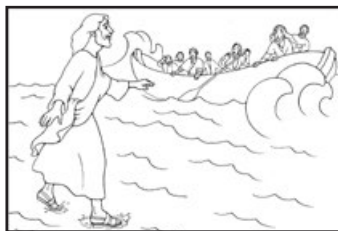
SAY: **Jesus told His special helpers to go to the other side of a lake. Jesus stayed on shore while His helpers got into a boat and started across the lake.** Pretend to row the boat.

While they were rowing, a storm came and the boat began to rock. Rock back and forth as though the boat is being tossed by waves. **Jesus’ helpers were afraid.** Pretend to be afraid.

But Jesus has power over storms and rough waters. Jesus started walking right on top of the water toward His helpers’ boat. Have children put their hands above their eyes and point toward Jesus. **At first, the helpers were afraid. Who or what was coming toward them? Then Jesus spoke to His helpers, and they knew everything would be OK. When Jesus got into the boat, the storm stopped.** ♥ **Jesus has power to walk on water.**

Teaching Tip

Use the Resources CD Bible story coloring page if you have extra time.



Materials

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



More! Bible Review

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

Play “Jesus Walks on Water,” leading children in the motions.

ASK: **Why were Jesus’ helpers afraid?** (A storm was rocking their boat. They didn’t know who or what was coming toward them on the water.)

How did Jesus show His power? (He walked on water.)

Why can Jesus walk on water? (Jesus is God’s Son.)

Materials

Resources CD Unit 1
Bible Memory Poster
printable file, watercolor paints,
cups of water, cotton swabs (or
paintbrushes), paint shirts
(optional: card stock)



More! Bible Memory Psalm 147:5

Before class, print the Bible Memory poster, one for each child. If you print the poster on card stock, it will be more durable.

SAY: **In today’s Bible story we learned that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let’s say together our Bible Memory about Jesus’ power. We will use water to help us paint around the Bible words.**

Have the children paint designs around the Bible Memory words, using the cotton swabs and watercolor paints. Say the verse often as the children work.

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 “Scamper’s Boat Story”

Bring out Scamper with the boat. SAY: **Hi, Scamper. Are you going boating?** Scamper whispers to you. **Oh, you don’t want to go boating. Why not?** Scamper whispers to you again. **You heard about a boat ride in a storm? Let’s tell the children about it.**

One day while Scamper was gathering nuts, he heard a little girl telling some children about a boat ride Jesus’ friends had taken.

The girl who was telling the story seemed excited. She wished she had been on that boat—except for the storm. Some of the children were a little worried about the storm. But then the girl told what happened.

She said that Jesus had walked on the water and when He got into the boat, the storm stopped! This showed how powerful Jesus is. Scamper whispers to you. **Yes, Scamper, ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let’s tell Scamper some other ways Jesus showed His power.**

Prompt children to share things from previous stories that showed Jesus’ power. (Examples: came back to life, healed a king’s helper’s son, healed a man who could not walk, healed the soldier’s helper)

ASK: **What does Jesus have the power to do?**

What can you say to God about Jesus’ power? Lead children in a prayer, thanking God for Jesus’ great power.

Materials

Scamper puppet, small toy boat



Jesus’ Power Game

SAY: **Today we have learned that ♥ Jesus has power to walk on water. Let’s play a game and name things Jesus did to show His power.**

Randomly tape the teaching pictures and construction paper to the floor in a circle. If you have a larger class, prepare two circles. Have each child stand on a teaching picture or sheet of construction paper. Play “Our Lord Is Great” while the children step from paper to paper, moving around the circle. Pause the CD and instruct each child to stop on a teaching picture or colored paper. Each child standing on a teaching picture should name a way Jesus showed His power. Repeat as time allows.

ASK: **Name things Jesus did to show His power.**

What are some ways Jesus shows His power today?

Especially for 2s!

Show the teaching pictures one at a time as the song plays. Pause the song and hold up one picture. Ask children to name the way Jesus showed His power depicted in the picture you are holding. Repeat as time and interest allow.


Saying Good-bye

- As children wait for their parents, play another round of the Jesus’ Power Game.
- Be sure children have projects they made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to talk with their children about the weather activity. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Materials

Resources CD track 5, *Teaching Pictures* 1–5, CD player, construction paper, masking tape (or packaging tape)



 Adapt this activity for children with limited verbal ability by providing the answers about how Jesus showed His power, instead of asking the children to do so themselves.

Teaching Tip

Laminate the teaching pictures and sheets of construction paper to make them sturdier, or attach them to chair backs and have children stand next to chairs.

Cleanup

Sing “Cleanup Song” found on the *Resources* CD Teacher Helps printable files. Work together with children in putting away toys and supplies.

