



Walk on Water

Matthew 14:22-33

Review

- Who can tell us the story from last week about the man who had the demons?
- What are you discovering about Jesus through these stories?
- How do people respond when you want to tell them a Bible Story?

Hook Question

What is the biggest adventure you have ever been on?

Tell the Story

Retell

Have the group retell the story in their own words. Work together to recreate what was just heard asking 'what's next' questions.

Personal/Group Retell

Have the group stand in a circle. Toss a ball to someone in the group and have them tell you what happened first in the story. They can toss the ball to someone else who says what happened next and so on until the entire story is told.

Introduction

Jesus has had a hard day. His cousin, John the Baptist, has been killed and Jesus tries to go someplace to be alone. The people follow him and he has compassion on them. He heals those who are sick and he miraculously feeds thousands who are hungry. Jesus continually shows God's love and power as we will once again see in our next story from the Bible:

Immediately after feeding the people, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake. He stayed behind and sent the people home. After that, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night time came while he was there alone.

Meanwhile, far away from the beach, the disciples were in trouble. A strong wind was blowing and they were fighting hard against the big waves. It was about three o'clock in the morning and Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. When the disciples saw him, they were terrified. They cried out, "It's a ghost!"

Immediately Jesus spoke to them. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!"

Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you by walking on the water."

"Come on," Jesus said.

Discussion Questions

Listed below are some basic questions that can be asked. You may want to supplement these questions with other Head, Heart, and Hands questions.

- What do you think was going on in Peter's heart and mind in this story?
- We may have already heard this story before. What jumps out at you as new or different?
- How are we just like Peter?
- What do we learn about Jesus from this passage?
- After hearing the story, how will you live differently?

Story Continued...

So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted.

Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"

When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then the disciples worshiped Jesus. "Jesus, you are the Son of God!"

Closing Blessing

Read Hebrews 11:6

Pray Lord, I ask that you bless each person with an extra measure of faith; that they trust you more each day and live lives that are honoring and pleasing to you.