



Jesus Walks on Water

30th August 2020

Reference: Matthew 14:22-33

Main Point: Jesus is the mighty son of God. He can even walk on water!

Activities to do together: Choose from the following

1. Floating and sinking experiment. Using your kitchen or laundry sink, as a water play area, explore with your children, the idea of floating and sinking. You will need a variety of objects such as toy boats or other empty small plastic containers, a cork, pencil, flower, feather, small pebble, coin, block and, small plastic toy figurines such as Lego or Duplo people. Hold up objects one at a time and ask the children to predict whether the object will float on top of the water or sink to the bottom. After you have finished these experiments ask your children:

Do you think that people can walk on water? *(No, if we tried to do that we would sink. If we were in deep water we would have to swim really hard to keep our head above the water)*

Have you ever seen anyone walking on water? *(No, you may have seen them walking through shallow water, but not on top of it)*

In the Bible, there is a true story about someone who walked on water. Who do you think that was? *(Jesus)*

2. Feet cut outs. Trace around both of your child's bare feet on paper or cardboard. Draw some toenails too. As you do this, talk about the types of things we can walk on. Ask questions such as; **Can you walk on grass? Can you walk on carpet? Can you walk on footpaths? Can you walk on water?** After the last question, make it clear that, while we can walk through shallow water, we can't walk on top of water. But there is a true story in the Bible where someone does just that. Who do you think it could be? *(Jesus)*

Keep the feet that you have made together handy, so that the children can decorate them during sermon time.

Bible: Retell the account of Jesus walking on the water found in Matthew 14: 22-33, or, read to your child, the story of Jesus walking on water, from a children's bible such as "The Beginners Bible".

Discussion:

What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? *(to get into the boat and go to the other side of the lake.)*

What did Jesus do? *(He went up on a mountainside by himself to pray/ talk to God.)*

What made the disciples afraid when they were in the boat, on the lake? *(It got very windy and the waves got very big. They thought they saw a ghost walking on the water towards their boat.)*

Who was walking on the water? *(Jesus. He called out to the disciples and told them not to be afraid. Jesus is amazing! No one else can walk on water like Jesus did.)*



Wait! In the story Peter walked on the water to Jesus. How did Peter do that? (*Jesus made Peter walk on the water. When Peter kept his eyes on Jesus and kept trusting him and his mighty power he could walk on the water. When he looked at the big waves he became scared. He forgot that Jesus is mighty and began to sink*)

Why can't people walk on water now? (*Jesus let Peter walk on the water to teach him who he was, and that he needed to trust him. We have the Bible to teach us that!*)

What happened when Jesus stepped into the boat? (*The wind and the waves stopped, everything was calm and still*)

What did the disciples think about Jesus walking on the water? (*They were amazed and they said to Jesus, "Truly you are the Son of God".*)

What amazing thing has Jesus done for all of us that we need to trust him for? (*Jesus died on the cross for us to fix our sin problem. We need to trust that he did that so that we can be forgiven and be with God forever!*)

Pray together:

Dear God, Thank you for your son Jesus. Thank you for all the amazing things Jesus did. Thank you that Jesus came to fix our sin problem. Please help us to trust and follow Jesus and to tell other people about him.

Memory verse: 'No one is like you, Lord, You are great, and your name is mighty in power.'-
Jeremiah 10:6

Ideas for sermon time:

- **Watch** this week's video for under 5's.
- The children could **decorate** their paper/cardboard feet traced around and cut out previously using stickers, collage materials, pencils, crayons, texta etc.
- The children could **build** little boats using small cardboard boxes, takeaway food containers, yoghurt tubs etc., paper triangles (sails), straws (masts), paddle pop sticks/straws (oars), playdough/Lego/small plastic play people, They will also need some sticky tape or blu tac to attach the sails and people and some crayons, pencils or textas decorate their sails and boats. Maybe an older brother or sister could help.
- **Colour** a picture of Jesus walking on water.
- If you have any simple jigsaw puzzles with a sea/boat theme the children might attempt during sermon time.