

Week 38 Parent Sheet: Jesus Walks on Water

Matthew 14:22-33 NIV

The One who made the water drink it, swam in it, and WALKED ON IT!

Bethlehem Family Childcare – Wednesdays: Story Time (9:30-10:00) and Bible Time (10:00-10:30)

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Many Events of Jesus' Life in Chronological Order:

- Born (5 BC)
- Named – when 8 days old
- Presented at the Temple – when 40 days old
- Visited by Wise Men – when 2 to 5 months old
- Fled to Egypt – when 2 to 5 months old
- Returned to live in Nazareth – when 1 year old
- His parents thought He was lost – when 12 years old
- Baptized by John – when 30 years old
- Some important events of His three-year ministry:
 - ➔ Tempted in the wilderness
 - ➔ Moved from Nazareth to Capernaum
 - ➔ Called His disciples
 - ➔ Preached the Sermon on the Mount
 - ➔ **Performed many miracles**
 - ➔ Sent out His disciples to heal and teach
 - ➔ Warned about persecution
 - ➔ Told many parables
 - ➔ Heard of the death of John the Baptist
 - ➔ More miracles and teaching
 - ➔ Transfigured, Moses and Elijah appeared with Him
 - ➔ More miracles and teaching
 - ➔ Welcomed into Jerusalem – on Palm Sunday
 - ➔ Taught many things – on Holy Tuesday
 - ➔ Instituted the Lord's Supper – on Holy Thursday
 - ➔ Arrested, tried, crucified, and died – on Good Friday
 - ➔ Raised to life – on the third day, Easter Sunday
 - ➔ Ascended into heaven – 40 days after Easter

Background:

1. During Jesus' life and ministry He fulfilled many OT prophecies, taught with authority, and did many mighty miracles; all such things prove that He is the Son of God, the Promised Savior of the world!
2. In today's true story, Jesus will show us that He is above the nature laws of this world!

Jesus Walks on Water:

1. The setting: ²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. // It's clear that the disciples

were far from the shore in a boat; there were also waves and wind – *not the best conditions for water-walking!*

2. Jesus CAN take a long walk on a short pier: ²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. // Try to imagine walking on top of water; Jesus did so to prove once again that He is the Promised Savior, *the source of forgiveness and way to heaven!*
3. Jesus' disciples were terrified: ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. ²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." // We tend to fear the impossible, *but God calls us to trust in Him!*
4. Initial courage for Peter; then reality: ²⁸ "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" // Faith is believing what we CANNOT see. Peter did that initially; *then he felt the wind, saw the waves, and doubted!*
5. Jesus can save in every way: ³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" ³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." // With God's blessing the disciples believed in Jesus; even though we haven't seen Jesus walk on water, *God calls us to believe the account of the eyewitnesses!*

Thoughts:

1. We might not feel like rotten sinners, but God's Word tells us that truth; *everyone is on the same sinking ship!*
2. We might not think Jesus is God, *but God's Word proves that truth over and over again!*
3. As Jesus was able to rescue Peter from drowning, *so Jesus has saved us from our sins!*
4. Now, since His work is done, *it is vital for everyone to receive the benefits of His work – by grace through faith in Jesus; our faith is in Him for eternal life!*