

Unit 3: Jesus: Mission Unstoppable

Jesus and Peter Walk On Water



BIBLE STORY

Matthew 14:22-32

Jesus miraculously fed five thousand people from just two fish and five loaves. He told the disciples to go to the other side of the lake. That night, a storm came up and the disciples thought they saw a ghost walking on the water, but it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid, it is I." Peter got out of the boat and started to walk toward Jesus. When he saw the wind, he became fearful and began to sink until Jesus took his hand and caught him. The disciples then believed that Jesus was the Son of God.

BIBLE VERSE

"Great is our Lord and mighty in power."
Psalm 147:5

OBJECTIVES

KNOW WHAT (LG): Children will hear the story of when Jesus walked on water.

SO WHAT (LG): Children will learn God/Jesus is all-powerful.

NOW WHAT (SG): Children will participate in a game where they will be challenged to identify ways they can trust that God can do anything.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Trust/Believe

PEOPLE NEEDED

- Teacher
- Assistant
- CD Player Assistant
- Vocalist

KEY CONCEPT

Jesus is all-powerful and I can trust and believe He can do anything.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Bible
- Cell phone
- Balance beam
- Mission Unstoppable CD
- Journey in the Wilderness CD
- Armor of God CD
- CD player
- Optional: TV/VCR
- Optional: Toy Story® video

IN ADVANCE

- Build a balance beam with a narrow wooden plank and supports. It can be a 2 x 4 or another strong piece of wood. Support the beam with bricks or chairs, depending how high off the ground you want it to be. Or, change the trust activity based on the Assistant's talents.
- Determine which songs you will use and be prepared to lead or teach them. Song suggestions are included in the lesson, but your kids may have some of their own favorites.
- Rehearse the teaching time with Teacher, Assistant, CD Assistant, and Vocalist.
- Set teaching area with Mission Unstoppable props, such as black and silver objects, trash cans, fabric, and the metal briefcase.
- Choose a Bible or paraphrase that is in modern-day language and easy for children to understand.
- Optional: To obtain an umbrella license to use the Toy Story® movie, call the Motion Picture Licensing Corporation at 1-800-515-8855. Cue up Toy Story® to



the first clip. Find and write down the location numbers for the second clip so you can find it

quickly during the program.

PRE-TEACH

(5 minutes)

Assistant: Welcome to Promiseland! I want to show you a trick I've been practicing.

(Walk across the balance beam without falling off.)

(Start Track 8 on the Mission Unstoppable CD – Week 9 Opening)

Assistant: *(Gets cell phone out of pocket and answers; stands on balance beam facing kids)*
Hello?

CD Voice Over: This is no time to be goofing around

You need to be ready, so get on the ground. Your mission should you choose to accept it— Find the true source of all power and trust it To begin, here's what you'll need to do Look in Matthew chapter 14 verse 22 The answer is there, just look and see The ultimate power is there plain to see.

(Hang up phone and stop CD.)

Teacher: *(Enters and sees Assistant on balance beam.)* Look at you! Are you sure you're okay on that thing?

Assistant: Yes, I checked it out.

Teacher: How do you know you can trust it?

Assistant: I put just a little weight on it at first. Then, I tried more and more. I slowly tried more weight until I knew it could hold me.

Teacher: All right! Are you ready to get started?


Assistant: Absolutely! *(Comes down from balance beam and joins teacher at center of teaching area.)*

TEACH

(20 minutes)

Teacher: Welcome back to Mission Unstoppable! Jesus had an unstoppable mission to save the world. He came to this planet as the only one who can save us all from our sin. He started His mission by building a team. He gathered twelve men to follow him. Do you remember what those men were called? *(Disciples)* That's right! Do you remember what the word, "disciple" means? *(Student)* You're right. It means student! You guys are smart mission agents. In mission

number two we found out we can love other people, just like Jesus loved. Remember Matthew? What did he do for a living before he met Jesus? *(Tax Collector)* That's right. He was a tax collector. He was a pretty unpopular guy, but Jesus loved him anyway. Last week we learned Jesus is loving and He wants us to love everyone. This week we are going to learn how powerful Jesus is. *(Turns to Assistant.)* What do you think of when you think of power?



Assistant: I think of (*response*). What do you guys think? (*Responses from children*) Those were all great answers. The word POWER can make us think of different things.

Optional

Assistant: If you want to see power, watch this!

(*Show clip from Toy Story® where Buzz Lightyear is in Andy's bedroom and thinks he can fly.*)

Teacher: Buzz Lightyear thought he could fly! We know that he was just a cartoon and is not real, but he sure thought he had power didn't he?

(*Assistant fast-forwards tape to second clip.*)

Teacher: Today we are going to find out about real power—the power of Jesus. No power compares to Jesus' power. Jesus is all-powerful. Remember when we talked about Jesus calming the storm? Think about that power! Jesus had power over the wind that was roaring through the air, the waves that were rocking the boat, the lightning that was tearing through the sky, and the thunder that was making everyone scared. Jesus had the power to stop the storm in the blink of an eye. Jesus has the power to do anything!

Teacher: Our Bible verse this week says, "Great is our Lord and mighty in power." That's in Psalm 147:5. Let's say it together. (*Repeat*) Let's get on with our mission! Our Mission Unstoppable phone call told us to go to Matthew 14.

(*Teacher picks up Bible and turns to Matthew 14.*)

Teacher: This story starts after Jesus has fed a large crowd of people along the lake. Crowds had started following Jesus all over the place because He had the power to heal people who


were sick. Talk about power! People wanted to see the power Jesus had. One day, thousands of people were following Jesus. They all started to realize they were very hungry. They didn't have fast food restaurants they could just run to for a hamburger. For all those people, they only had five small loaves of bread and two fish! And do you know what Jesus did? Jesus showed His power again! Jesus fed all those people with those five loaves of bread and two fish. This was another example of Jesus' power! That brings us to the point where our story picks up today. Jesus had finished speaking to a large crowd along the lake and He told His disciples to get into their boat and cross to the other side of the lake. Then, Jesus went up into the hills to be by Himself and pray. While Jesus was praying, the disciples were out on the lake. It got dark and a strong wind started blowing. The waves got bigger and bigger. A storm rose on the lake. The disciples were caught in their boat! They were terrified. Let me read the next part. (*Read Matthew 14: 22-33 with energy and expression.*)

(*As soon as the reading is finished, Vocalist sings the song, "Awesome God," from the Armor of God CD.*)





Teacher: God truly is an Awesome God! That story is amazing! Jesus healed the sick, He multiplied food, He walked on the water. We like to think we are just as powerful, don't we? We'd sure like to believe we are just as powerful as anyone else, but no one has the power that Jesus has.

Optional


Teacher: That reminds me. Buzz sure seemed to think he




Teaching Tip: If a Vocalist is not available, sing "Awesome God" as a group.




could fly. Can he really fly?
Let's see . . .





(Show Toy Story® clip where Buzz is in Sid's house and realizes he is a toy, tries to fly a second time, and fails.)



Teacher: Poor Buzz! He didn't have the power he thought he had after all. The hard truth is, no one on the planet has super powers. There is only one source of real power and that is Jesus. When Jesus walked on the water, He showed us how powerful He really was.



Teacher: But here's the cool part. Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water,








too. Peter wasn't a super hero. He didn't have any special powers. He was human, just like you and me. But when Peter trusted in Jesus and in Jesus' power, He was able to walk on the water, too. But what happened when Peter stopped trusting and became scared? You're right! He started to sink. Peter didn't have super powers. Peter was only able to walk on water through Jesus' power. Jesus has the power to do absolutely anything in the whole world. That is why Jesus is the best one to talk to when you are in trouble, or scared, or you have a problem.






JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL AND I CAN TRUST AND BELIEVE HE CAN DO ANYTHING.

POST-TEACH

(5 minutes)



Assistant: Trusting can be a difficult thing to understand. (pause) Hey! I've got a great example of trust! When I walked across the balance beam, I trusted it! I had to trust that it would hold me and it wouldn't break when I was on it. I could have been hurt if it had broken! Of course, I didn't just jump on it and hope it held me! I researched it by putting a little more weight on it at a time, until I knew I could stand on it and it would hold me.



Teacher: That's exactly how we're trusting Jesus! We're coming to church and learning about Jesus, and building a personal relationship with Him. Through our own research, we are learning we can trust Him with our lives. We've found out Jesus calmed the storm, He healed people who were sick, He fed thousands of people with a few fish and loaves, and He walked on water! Jesus is all-powerful. In your Small Groups, you're going to talk about ways you can trust Jesus every single day.
JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL AND WE

CAN TRUST THAT HE CAN DO ANYTHING.

PRAYER

Dear God,
You are so awesome and powerful. Help us to trust You with our whole lives. Amen.

(Play Track 9 on the Mission Unstoppable CD—Week 9 closing.)

Teacher: (answers phone) Hello?

CD Voice Over: Kids, it is your turn once again. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to trust in Jesus' power.

MUSIC

"Your Everlasting Love" (Making It Connect CD)
"On-line" (Making It Connect CD)

(Dismiss to Small Groups. Play Mission Unstoppable CD Track 4 music as children exit.)